MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 JULY 1981

Lebanese Crisis

Military Situation--Fighting between Israeli and Palestinian forces continued throughout the weekend in the wake of the 17 July Israeli air raids on Beirut and southern Lebanon. Initial reports by the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio said 123 people were killed and 569 were injured in the 17 July raids. Subsequent reports noted that over the period 10-19 July, Israeli military operations killed 265 and wounded 939 persons. Voice of Lebanon radio reported that the Israeli planes destroyed the Fatah, Arab Liberation Front and Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine headquarters buildings on 17 July. According to AFP, some Syrian soldiers were killed when their roadblock near the Kuwaiti Embassy was strafed by the Israeli planes. The Voice of Palestine has denied reports by the Voice of Lebanon that the Palestinian military leadership has decided to call for the evacuation of Lebanese civilians from parts of west Beirut.

In the south shelling by Israeli land and sea forces set the Az-Zahrani oil refinery ablaze on 17 July, the Voice of Palestine reported. Israeli shelling continued on 18 and 19 July, The radio said, with shells hitting bridges, Palestinian camps and a number of towns and villages, including Sidon. Reporting an Israeli air strike on the Al-Hamra' bridge south of Sidon on 18 July, Beirut radio noted that the Israeli Air Force has now attacked nine bridges. Voice of Palestine reports claimed that Plaestinian air defenses downed two Israeli planes on 17 July, while Damascus radio asserted that Syrian ground forces shot down two Israeli aircraft the same day. Monitored Israeli media have consistently reported that all Israeli aircraft have returned safely to base and have not mentioned any aircraft losses.

IDF radio reported on 19 July that Israeli planes attacked Palestinian bases and artillery positions in southern Lebanon, scoring direct hits. The Voice of Palestine confirmed the renewed air raids on a number of targets including Tyre, Qalat Ash-Shafiq and Beaufort Castle, asserting that Palestinian ground fire prevented the raiders from flying at low altitudes. IDF radio reported another Israeli air strike on Palestinian targets at Beaufort Castle and in the Az-Zahrani River estuary on the morning of 20 July. Jerusalem radio reported early on 20 July that during the night an IDF ground force raided Palestinian positions in Mazraat al-Musaylih, about 4 km east of the Az-Zahrani River estuary. The Israeli force destroyed a building and killed several Palestinians, the radio said, but suffered seven casualties. IDF radio later revealed that an IDF officer was killed in the operation. According to the Voice of Palestine, Palestinian forces defeated the Israeli landing attempt, which was made from helicopters and from boats supported by two warships providing covering fire.

According to both Jerusalem radio and the Voice of Palestine, Palestinian forces in the south have continued to shell targets inside Israel. Jersualem radio said that a man was killed and 10 people were injured when Katyusha rockets hit northern Israeli settlements on 19 July and that further rocket attacks killed a woman and injured several other people early on 20 July. Earlier Palestinian rocket fire and shelling caused only slight injuries, the radio reported, but disrupted electricity and water supplies. The Voice of Palestine reported that Palestinian shelling was directed at Israeli artillery and Christian militia positions. The radio also reported that Palestinian rockets hit Safad and a number of northern Israeli settlements early on 20 July. Earlier, the Voice of Palestine said that Palestinian groups operating inside Israeli-occupied territory shelled Israeli positions at Samakh in the Jordan Valley during the night of 18 July. Confirming the attack, Jerusalem radio said the shelling, which caused no casualties or damage, emanated from Syrian territory and not from inside Jordan as initially assumed. In another report, the radio cited the IDF intelligence chief as asserting that Syria must have known about this Palestinian fire from the Golan toward Israel. The Voice of Palestine announced on 20 July that the previous night a Palestinian unit inside Israel planted a bomb inside an IDF fuel station at Qiryat Gat. The radio said the resulting explosion injured a number of Israeli soldiers. However, Jerusalem radio reported that no one was injured by the blast.

Israeli Comment--In remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio on 18 July, Israeli Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori said he assumes that the Palestinians will have second thoughts and opt for moderation after the hard blow dealt them by Israel on 17 July. However, he warned that if Israel's current methods do not calm the Palestinians, Israel will choose new methods in which it will "meticulously comb" Palestinian-controlled Lebanese territory, "locate everything likely to be there" and adopt "more stringent measures" against them. Indicating that the presence of U.S. special envoy Philip Habib in Israel will not limit IDF activity in Lebanon, Tzipori said Israel will continue "defending its citizens" even when its "good friends" are in the area. According to the radio, Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan has expressed confidence that the Palestinians will soon be forced to cease their shelling of northern Israeli settlements because, with their supply lines cut by Israel's attacks on southern Lebanese bridges, they will soon use up their stocks of ammunition.

Palestinian, Lebanese Reaction--Noting that civilians in Beirut were surprised by the Israeli air attack on targets within the city, the Voice of Palestine claimed that popular morale was strengthened by the sight of an Israeli jet falling into the sea. Nevertheless the radio also spoke of a groundswell of popular anger at the inability of the Arabs to confront Israel effectively. It said attempts will be made to restore road links with southern areas cut off as a result of the Israeli attacks. The Voice of Palestine also quoted PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi as saying on 18 July that the Arabs should use the oil weapon to combat the "Zionist aggression, which is primarily backed by the United States." A 19 July statement by a Palestinian military spokesman, broadcast by the radio, castigated the U.S. administration for providing weapons to Israel. It reiterated the accusation that the United States is responsible for Israel's "organized official terrorism."

Lebanese officials have also reacted strongly to the raids. Beirut radio, citing AL-ANWAR, reported on 19 July that Lebanon will submit a resolution to the UN Security Council condemning Israeli aggression and warning against Israeli plans to "storm the south." A 17 July statement by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, broadcast by the radio, said Lebanon must expect "everything" from Israel in light of its latest attacks. According to the radio, Al-Wazzan said on 19 July that the Israeli raids caused a "massacre" in Lebanon. He expressed determination to rebuild destroyed bridges even if Israel attacks them again.

Air Defenses--Beirut radio reported on 18 July that after meeting with Prime Minister al-Wazzan, Libyan envoy 'Abd al-Qadir Ghuqah revealed that he had reiterated Libya's offer to provide Lebanon with "complete air cover." On the same day the Voice of Palestine broadcast a statement issued by the Lebanese National Movement Central Political Council calling for the deployment of a SAM-6 missile network to protect Beirut from further Israeli air raids. The statement said it is the right and duty of the Lebanese-Palestinian-Syrian alliance, particularly the Syrian forces, to mobilize all weapons to defend Lebanese territory. It asserted that Israel has now launched a comprehensive war against Lebanon.

Arab Defense Council--KUNA reported on 20 July that the Arab League is making contacts to hold an emergency meeting of the Arab Defense Council in Tunis on 23 July. Earlier, according to the Voice of Palestine, the PLO submitted an official request to the Arab League calling for an Arab Defense Council meeting to discuss the Israeli attacks on Lebanon and the Palestinians.

Habib Mission--Jerusalem radio reported that in his two rounds of talks with U.S. special envoy Habib, Prime Minister Begin rejected criticism of Israeli bombing of civilian targets and said Israel will continue to deal blows at the Palestinians until they cease their "terrorist" attacks on Israel. The radio reported on 20 July that during its 21 July session the Israeli Cabinet will decide under what conditions it will be prepared to accept the U.S. demand for a cease-fire. It also reported that Begin may send President Ronald Reagan a letter explaining the Israeli bombing of Beirut and said earlier that Begin was angry about Reagan's criticisms of the Israeli air raids.

Egyptian Reaction--An Egyptian Foreign Ministry statement, transmitted by MENA, condemned the Israeli aggression against the Lebanese people, which, it said, will necessarily increase tension in the region, undermine the peace process and place more obstacles on the path of a comprehensive peace. The statement also condemned the policy of the Damascus regime, which is aimed at dominating Lebanon and opening the door to international polarization of the area. It said the first step toward a just and durable peace in the area must be mutual and simultaneous recognition between Israel and the Palestinians.

Israeli-Egyptian Relations

Begin Visit Postponed--According to Jerusalem radio, Prime Minister Begin has postponed his planned visit to Egypt until after President Anwar as-Sadat returns from his visits to Great Britain and the United States. The radio said Begin is not interested in traveling abroad before he forms the new government.

Multinational Peacekeeping Force--MENA reported that representatives of Egypt, Israel and the United States initialed the agreement on the formation of the Sinai multinational peacekeeping force at the U.S. Embassy in London on 17 July. In a statement to the MENA correspondent in London, the Egyptian representative, Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Tahis Shash, affirmed that there is no contradiction between the agreement and Egypt's sovereignty over its territory. He said it is impossible to fix the length of the force's stay in Sinai since it will depend on the development of relations between Egypt and Israel.

Iran

Tudeh Byelection Candidates--According to Tehran radio, the Tehran governor's office has announced that in accordance with a 19 July Council of Guardians ruling, seven candidates for the Majlis byelections, including Tudeh First Secretary Nureddin Kianuri and another Tudeh official, have been excluded from the eligibility list. An 18 July Tehran radio report had named Kianuri as one of the eligible candidates.

Executions, Arrests--Tehran radio reported that 16 people were sentenced to death by Islamic revolution courts for various antistate activities. The radio cited a Foreign Ministry official as denying that people have been executed because of their religion. He explained that the few who have been executed were found guilty of "clear charges" and punished for conspiring against the revolution. According to a guards corps statement, broadcast by Tehran radio on 17 July, more than 20 Peykar centers were "crushed" by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and more than 100 officials and members of the organization were arrested. The radio also said 16 Mojahedin-e Khalq members were sentenced to prison by the Esfahan Islamic Revolution Court for disturbing the peace and distributing publications.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Tehran radio and INA carried reports over the weekend of minor clashes on many fronts. Among the reports was an Iranian Armed Forces communique claiming that the Iranian Air Force attacked the Dukan powerplant in Iraq on 19 July, damaging the turbines and transformers. The communique, carried by Tehran radio, said all of the Iranian planes returned safely to base. A 19 July Iraqi Armed Forces General Command communique, transmitted by INA, acknowledged that Iranian planes raided the Dukan area of As-Sulaymaniyah. It asserted, however, that Iraqi ground defenses intercepted and downed an Iranian F-5 fighter plane.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East and Africa

Vol V No 138 *20 July 1981*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW 1

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Arab League's Klibi Protests Israeli 'Aggression' A 1
'Arafat Addresses Messages to Arabs, Palestinians A 1
17 Jul Message [VOP] A 1
19 Jul Address [VOP] A 2
Qaddumi Meets Arab Ambassadors, Makes Statement [VOP] A 3
Commander of Joint Forces in South Views 'War' [VOP] A 4
'Arafat Chairs Committee Meetings 18, 20 Jul A 5
Military Council Meeting [VOP] A 5
Executive Committee Meeting [VOP] A 5
VOP Carries Palestinian Military Statements A 6
17 Jul Statement A 6
19 Jul Statement A 6
PLO Requests Arab Defense Council Meeting [VOP] A 7
WAFA Reports 'Arafat-Soviet Envoy Meeting 17 Jul A 7
Democratic Front Building Hit During 17 Jul Raid [VOP] A 7
Joint Forces Deny Israel Bombed Ad-Damur 18 Jul [VOP] A 7
VOP Carries Denial of VOL Beirut Evacuation Report A 7
Lebanese Political Council Debates Israeli 'War' [VOP] A 8

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

Statement Condemns Israeli 'Aggression' in Lebanon C 1
Joint Arab Defense Council Meeting Welcomed C 1

SAUDI ARABIA

'Responsible Source' Statement on Israeli Attacks C 2

UAE

UAE To Attend Arab Defense Council Meeting C 2

EGYPT

Foreign Ministry Statement on Israeli 'Aggression' D 1
Palestinians Reportedly Request Medical Aid D 1

IRAQ

Armed Forces General Command Communiques 17-19 Jul E 1
Communique No 401 E 1
Communique No 402 E 1
Communique No 403 E 2
Saddam Husayn Says Iraq Will Build More Reactors E 3

LEBANON

Reportage on Israeli Raids, Evacuation Call G 1
17 Jul Report G 1
19 Jul Report G 1
Evacuation Request Reported G 2
Southern Shelling Continues G 2
Commando Raid Reported G 3
Sarkis Condemns Israeli Air Attack on Beirut G 3
Al-Wazzan Speaks After 18 Jul Cabinet Meeting G 4
Information Minister Comments on Israeli Acts G 5
Envoy Leaves for UN 19 Jul; Makes Statement G 7
Al-Wazzan Comments After Meeting U.S., USSR Envoys G 8
Envoy Says Libya Ready To Give Military Help G 9
Al-Wazzan Cited on Meeting With 'Arafat 18 Jul G 9

SYRIA

Four Israeli Planes Reported Downed 17 Jul H 1
People's Assembly Meets, Discusses Attacks H 1
Further Report on Session H 1

ISRAEL

Military Forces Hit 'Terrorist' Targets in Lebanon I 1
19 Jul Air Attack I 1
Night Ground Raid I 1
20 Jul Air Attack I 1
Begin Reiterates Policy on Lebanese Civilians I 2
Habib Returns to Israel for Meetings With Begin I 2
Israeli Position Outlined I 2
19 Jul Morning Meeting I 2
Second Meeting 19 Jul I 3
Begin 'Firm' After Meetings I 4
Begin To Send Reagan Letter I 4
Begin Said To Be 'Angry' With President Reagan I 5
Shamir Interviewed on Beirut Bombing, U.S. Planes I 5

NORTH AFRICA

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Sends Message to Arab Leaders Q 1
Lebanese National Movement Leaders Depart 18 Jul Q 1
PFLP-GC Leaders Arrive; Received by Jabir Q 1

MAURITANIA

Foreign Affairs Ministry Condemns Israeli Actions Q 2

SUDAN

Foreign Ministry Condemns Israel's Attacks Q 2

CENTRAL AFRICA

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Dacko Bans Two Parties, Suspends Third 18 Jul S 1
Nationalist Group Claims Responsibility for Attack S 1
Opposition Condemnation S 2
Former Bokassa Prime Minister Domitien Acquitted S 2

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Parliamentarians Condemn Killing in Nigeria T 1

LIBERIA

Text of Doe Economic Address to Nation 17 Jul T 1

NIGERIA

Nigeria Would React To U.S. Moves in Angola T 6

SOUTHERN AFRICA

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Announces Major Attack on Ruacana Base U 1
Dirk Mudge Comments on Results of U.S. Visit U 1

SOUTH AFRICA

Brother of Mozambique Pilot Reportedly Defects U 1

ARAB LEAGUE'S KLIBI PROTESTS ISRAELI 'AGGRESSION'

LD181428 Rabat MAP in English 1221 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] Tunis, 18 Jul (MAP)--Following the recent Israeli aggressions against Lebanon, Mr Chedli Klibi, secretary general of the Arab League, made a declaration affirming that "the new Israeli aggression against Lebanon and which made many innocent victims in Palestinian refugees camps, in Lebanese towns and villages, and even in the capital Beirut, constitutes, besides the destruction of the road infrastructure, a most dangerous development and the expression of Israel's will to throw the region into a murderous and devastating war," precising [as received] that "this uninterrupted escalation of violence would not have been possible if international dissuasion measures were taken in time to put an end to Israeli crimes."

"The new aggression, went on Mr Klibi, clearly reveals the objectives of the Camp David treaty and the results that could stem from it. Israel ended being free to launch, with all impunity aggressions against Arab states, as was recently the case of the Iraqi reactor, and as is always the case with the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. These aggressions were made possible by the flow of arms granted to Israel by the United States, and by the unlimited economic assistance and unconditional political support that they gave it."

Drawing the attention of the international public opinion to this serious situation, the Arab League reminded member states of the U.N. Security Council of their responsibility and warned them against indifference towards such aggressions.

Mr Klibi added that Arab League bureaus all over the world will make contacts with governments and international organizations to explain the situation, and called on the international public opinion, especially countries that continue to support and assist Israel, to impose on it to stop these barbaric aggression.

Mr Klibi warned against the consequences of these aggressions which could provoke an explosion of the whole region and endanger international peace and security.

'ARAFAT ADDRESSES MESSAGES TO ARABS, PALESTINIANS

NC172000 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1616 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Message by Yasir 'Arafat--identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar--to the Lebanese, Palestinian masses--recorded, no date or place given]

[Text] Brothers, beloved ones, sons of our heroic Lebanese, Palestinian people, every man, woman and child, my beloved steadfast ones against the terrorist murderers; beloved faithful, patient and stationed ones in the most important arena of the struggle in our Arab nation and in the strongest fortress of the Arab steadfastness against the U.S.-Zionist oppressor and all its evils, terrorism, crimes and unequaled ferocity: The Zionist-U.S. aggression, my brothers, has reached its climax. The latest criminal attacks on Beirut and on the steadfast south has shown to what extent the Zionist black hatred and the U.S. criminal and terrorist action have reached against our Lebanese people and our Palestinian people. This was represented in these savage air raids against camps, cities, villages, residential areas and peaceful people.

Brothers, relatives and my beloved sons of our Palestinian people and the Lebanese people, the pure blood of our sons and daughters, which was shed on every inch of the good Lebanese soil, on every inch of the Palestinian camps, will not go in vain and will not pass without a deterrent punishment of those American and Zionist killers.

Your sons the heroes of the joint forces have proved in these decisive historical moments that they are the defenders of their people and nation--the defenders of dignity and honor. They are the strong shield protecting Lebanon, the Palestinians and the Arab nation. They are the sword that strikes and fights in the name of right and justice.

Our steadfast people in the occupied Palestine, my brothers everywhere in our occupied homeland, while you are following the steadfast battle of your sons and brothers in the Lebanese arena in this sixth Palestinian-Israeli war, I tell you that our steadfastness stems from your steadfastness and that the watchdog Begin and his White House master Reagan cannot detract from the determination of your revolution and from the steadfastness of your revolutionary sons in all positions of our struggle. This will only increase our determination and insistence to march along the long road.

Further steadfastness, our people and our sons of the great Lebanese, Palestinian people, further persistence on the great challenge which we started together side by side and shoulder to shoulder, further closing of the Palestinian-Lebanese ranks in defense of the Arabdom of Lebanon and its territorial integrity, in defense of Palestine and of Lebanon and in safeguarding the dignity of the Arab nation and the future of its generations and children. [sentence as heard]

I greet you, my brothers; I shake your hands, steadfast heroes. Together we will march until the banners of our revolution and nation fly high over Jerusalem, the capital of our independent democratic Palestinian state.

In the name of God, most gracious, most merciful. To those against whom war is made permission is given, because they are wronged; and verily, God is most powerful for their aid; those who have been expelled from their homes in defiance of right, except that they say, "our Lord is God." God made it but a message of hope for you, and an assurance to your hearts: There is no help except from God, the exalted, the wise. [Koranic verse]

It is a revolution until victory.

Your brother Abu 'Ammar

19 Jul Address

NC192004 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text of 19 July address to the Arab masses by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat--identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar--recorded ...o place given]

[Text] Oh sons of our glorious Arab nation; oh sons of our steadfast and patient Lebanese and Palestinian peoples; oh our heroic and valiant fighters in all positions of heroism and sacrifice; oh my beloved sons of our Palestinian people under Zionist occupation:

For the seventh day running the sixth Israeli-Palestinian war is continuing with unprecedented ferocity and fury. Your brave fighters in the joint forces--consisting of Lebanese, Palestinians, Arabs and friends--are continuing to offer magnificent sacrifices. From their trenches and forward comtat positions your sons are continuing to confront Israel's belligerence in the air, at sea and on the ground. With great Arab pride they are creating an epic of honor, heroism and sacrifice for our glorious Arab nation. They are defending this nation as well as its honor, future and coming generations.

For the seventh day running the criminal Zionist enemy's attacks are continuing. The bloodthirsty enemy is using all modern weapons of destruction and death.

The U.S. administration has supplied the enemy with these weapons so that he will be its obedient striking tool and its long arm for controlling our entire Arab region and threatening the security of its nations and states, thus extending like an octopus to tighten its control on our [word indistinct], region and resources.

For the seventh day running the savage and barbaric shelling from the air, sea and ground is continuing against defenseless civilians from among your Lebanese and Palestinian peoples without discrimination among old people, women and children. It is an official and organized terrorism and a war of extermination which the United States has planned and which this Israeli military gang--which is composed of a bunch of murderers and butchers--is trying to carry out.

In this ferocious and brutal war, the Palestinian, Lebanese and Arab fighters are standing fast in their trenches. [Words indistinct] they are defending our existence, dignity and honor. With light and fire they are writing a glorious history for our Arab nation.

Oh masses of our Arab nation, oh sincere and faithful masses, if these valiant Palestinian, Lebanese and Arab fighters in the joint forces are stubbornly continuing the fighting, they are confident that they are not alone in their battles. All the masses of our struggling and honorable nation are standing behind them, as well as all the liberation and progressive forces and all the honest and free men in the world.

My beloved brothers in our occupied land, your sons are continuing their struggle for the seventh consecutive day, confronting the lethal Israeli-U.S. war machine. They are deriving their strength and determination from you. This is because your struggle and steadfastness complements their struggle and their blazing struggle complements your struggle.

Oh masses of our great Arab nation, blessed are those who with their chests and deep faith are confronting this arrogant U.S.-Zionist enemy and treacherous aggressor. It is a pledge to the struggling masses of our Arab nation that we will carry on the struggle. A pledge is a pledge and an oath is an oath. [Words indistinct] with their humble resources and with their lives and blood, our strugglers in the Palestinian revolution and the joint forces will shoulder their pan-Arab duties and their struggle responsibilities with honesty, honor and true revolutionary commitment.

"In the name of God, the compassionate and the merciful. Rouse the believers to the fight. Thou art held responsible only for thyself. If ye will aid the cause of God, He will aid you and plant your feet firmly. There is no help except from God, the exalted, the wise. Verily God said the truth." [quotations from the Koran] It is a revolution until victory.

QADDUMI MEETS ARAB AMBASSADORS, MAKES STATEMENT

JN181651 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, met at noon today with the Arab ambassadors to Lebanon to brief them on the killing of innocent people--children, women and old people--caused by the Zionist onslaught, which is backed by U.S. imperialism, and to make the Arab states shoulder their responsibilities in the conditions of challenge through which the Arab nation is passing, particularly after the U.S. role in support of the Zionist aggression has become very clear. At the end of the meeting, Brother Abu al Lutf made the following statement to a WAFA correspondent:

The meeting with the Arab ambassadors was not only to brief them on the current developments and the Zionists' savage raid on the civilian quarters of Beirut, but also to make them realize that in its new plan Israel has given itself the freedom to attack any place in Lebanon, including the capital, Beirut, and is continuing the war of extermination against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, violating and disregarding all international agreements and customs, including the Geneva Conventions on the Protection of Civilians. The Arabs must take a serious stand and shoulder their responsibilities. All the Arabs are called upon to take practical measures against this flagrant Zionist aggression, which is primarily backed by the United States. The Arabs are called upon to use their oil without delay. The Arab masses, particularly the Palestinian revolution, have begun to lose faith in the joint Arab action.

Therefore, the time has come for the Arabs to take practical measures and stand to protect the citizens. This demands that they exercise political pressures against the United States and Europe so that they will feel that their interests are endangered. Otherwise, the Palestinian revolution will perform its role in full, come what may.

COMMANDER OF JOINT FORCES IN SOUTH VIEWS 'WAR'

JN182045 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1830 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Excerpts] Brothers, amid this escalation of the Palestinian-Zionist war and amid the shelling, fighting and persistent confrontation, we met with brother Col al-Haj Isma'il, commander of the joint forces in the south, who will give us his opinion regarding what is happening. He will tell us about his speculations concerning the future and his assessment of the spirit with which our fighters are facing their Zionist enemy. Brother Col al-Haj Isma'il will now speak to us:

[Begin recording] Before I begin, I would like to extend greetings of admiration and appreciation to all the heroes in the joint forces who are confronting the Zionist enemy with all their means. I also extend greetings to our kinfolk who are standing fast in southern Lebanon and who are receiving the blows of the arrogant enemy with their bodies and their property.

What is taking place in the Lebanese arena, particularly in the south, is the zenith of the Zionist military escalation, which is making use of the U.S. war machine. The Zionist enemy is using an arsenal of arms supplied to it by the United States. With this arsenal, the enemy is trying to crush the will to stand fast, the will of defiance and the will of struggle of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples and our joint forces, which are standing fast in the south.

We are prepared to confront this war and bear its burdens. Our ability to stand fast is enhanced by the support of our kinfolk in southern Lebanon and their bearing of the burdens of this battle. At the same time, unfortunately, the Arabs are standing idly by as spectators regarding the massacres being perpetrated against our people, children and women in the south. This only increases our self-confidence in confronting all our enemies. We will continue to fight until this nation wakes up from its deep slumber.

In our opinion, the coming few days will abound with new developments, both on the political and military levels. We expect the agents of U.S. imperialism in the Arab region to move in step with this Zionist aggression to achieve, through diplomatic means, gains which the Zionist war failed to achieve by trying to crush our revolution and people in southern Lebanon. We warn all these agents that our forces which are facing the Zionist enemy are capable of confronting them. Let them know in advance that we will never cede any military or political gain achieved by the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese National Movement in defense of southern Lebanon and the Palestinian revolution's protracted armed struggle.

You notice the ability of the Palestinian fighters and that of their brother Lebanese fighters and other Arab fighters in the ranks of the Palestinian revolution. They are dealing two blows for one to the Zionist enemy's settlements and military positions. Our artillery and rocket units have taught the enemy an unforgettable lesson.

In the past few days the enemy tried to sever the arteries of southern Lebanon. Our forces are continuously working to link all the vital routes.

We are fighting a real war with the Zionist enemy. While waging this war, we recall our people's steadfastness inside the occupied homeland. We tell them: Your Palestinian forces stationed on the northern border of Palestine will continue to be your faithful shield. [end recording]

'ARAFAT CHAIRS COMMITTEE MEETINGS 18, 20 JUL

Military Council Meeting

JN181714 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] chaired at noon today a meeting of the Palestinian Revolution's Higher Military Council. The meeting's discussions centered on the situation on the various military fronts in the fighting with the Zionist enemy. The council discussed the various aspects of the general situation in light of the reports received from the various military positions and sectors, including the continued Israeli air raids and the artillery and rocket shelling directed at various areas in the south and against Sidon, As-Sa'diyat and the eastern sector.

The council adopted a number of measures and arrangements to guarantee that the situation is faced properly. The council praised the high spirits of the fighters in the joint forces in facing the land, air and sea attacks of the enemy on the various sectors and positions. The council also noted that the Zionist enemy was unable to achieve the aims it planned for despite the fierceness of its attacks. The council praised the fighters, especially those in the ground resistance who bravely faced the enemy planes, and were able to down two of them. The council also praised the Lebanese and Palestinian people, who are bravely and steadfastly standing against this Zionist-U.S. aggression.

The council stressed that the United States must take the responsibility for this criminal act perpetrated by Israel, which is using the most modern U.S. means of destruction and killing, including the internationally banned bombs that were dropped by the Zionist planes on the defenseless civilians in Beirut and the south.

Executive Committee Meeting

NC200703 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0530 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee held a meeting last night under brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. During the meeting the committee discussed the current situation in the wake of the war of annihilation the Zionist enemy is waging against Beirut and southern Lebanon with the support and backing of the United States. The committee expressed its appreciation of the great popular steadfastness despite the enemy's bestiality and ferocity which caused hundreds of victims of civilians, particularly women and children.

The PLO Executive Committee has decided to compensate all civilian losses and to rebuild the destroyed areas. It calls on all Arab and friendly countries to shoulder their responsibilities in this regard. It extended greetings to the joint forces' compatriots in the steadfast south against the Zionist aggression in this Israeli-Palestinian war. It decided to continue its moves in the Arab arena to convene the joint Arab defense council so that the Arab countries will shoulder their responsibilities at this stage, in which the Palestinian and Lebanese people are being subjected to a war of extermination and are defending the entire Arab fate.

It decided to take action in the international area to highlight the nature of the ferocious war which the Zionists are waging against civilians. It calls on all friendly countries to increase their support to the Lebanese and Palestinian struggle against the barbarism and beastiality of Zionism and its patrons in Washington.

The PLO Executive Committee considers the United States to be the first responsible party for Begin's crimes against our people and the fraternal Lebanese people. It emphasizes the importance of coordinating action among the Arab forces, the forces of confrontation and steadfastness, Syria and the progressive Lebanese forces in particular, to face the war and protect the entire Arab existence.

VOP CARRIES PALESTINIAN MILITARY STATEMENTS

17 Jul Statement

NC171245 (Clandesine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1223 GMT 17 Jul 81

[17 July statement by a military source of the central command of the joint forces--read by announcer]

[Text] Our forces are returning fire to silence the Zionist sources of fire, directed at the Palestinian camps and the Lebanese villages and towns. The important thing which must be noted is that these Zionist sources of fire are located in Qiryat Shemona, Nahariyya, Metulla and other locations. Our forces are compelled to direct their fire at these places to silence them.

Irrespective of the repeated claims, threats and tunes which the leaders of the Zionist terrorist gang make, everyone knows that this racist clique is just a cheap tool in the claw of U.S. imperialism and its masters in the White House, who direct them and give the terrorist orders to carry out crimes and extend to them by means of war and destruction. The Zionist military establishment is nothing more than a little puppet in the hands of the U.S. Pentagon.

Let these terrorists in Tel Aviv and their masters in the U.S. White House know that we shall retaliate at the rate of two to one.

19 Jul Statement

NC191355 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1305 GMT 19 Jul 81

[19 July statement by a Palestinian military spokesman--read by announcer]

[Text] The enemy air force, navy and artillery have, in addition to the rocket shelling which began at 0700 today, been attacking civilian residential areas in An-Nabatiyah, Arnun, An-Najjariyah, Zifta, Az-Zahrani, Al-Qasimiyah, Ar-Rashidiyah Camp, Al-Buss, (Tabriha), Hursh an-Nabi Tahir, Habbush, Ra's al-'Ayn, Ar-Rayhan, Tallat Khazin, Al-Qatranah, Tyre, Sidon and Hasbayya.

The Zionist enemy's perpetuation of this undeterred criminal, barbaric and bestial shelling of these residential areas places on the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces the responsibility of protecting our children and women in the Lebanese villages and towns and the Palestinian camps.

We hold the U.S. administration responsible for this gangsterism and organized official terrorism. The U.S. administration supplies this Zionist enemy with the most sophisticated means and weapons of war and destruction and gives him approval and encouragement to indulge in this barbaric and criminal act.

Our fighters and heroes in the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces will shoulder their national Arab duties and struggle responsibilities with honor and sincerity.

PLO REQUESTS ARAB DEFENSE COUNCIL MEETING

JN181539 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1528 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] We have just received the following: The radio correspondent has learned that the PLO today officially requested the convocation of the Arab joint defense council. The PLO delegate to the Arab League submitted an official memorandum to the Arab League secretary general requesting the convocation of the Arab joint defense council as soon as possible to discuss the large-scale Zionist aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian revolution.

It has been learned that Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi is currently holding contacts with the Arab countries to inform them of the PLO's request. Klibi will inform the PLO of answers of the Arab states so that it will know their stands on the Zionist-imperialist aggression against the Arab nation.

WAFA REPORTS 'ARAFAT-SOVIET ENVOY MEETING 17 JUL

NC172245 Paris AFP in English 2233 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] Beirut, 17 Jul (AFP)--The head of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Yasir 'Arafat, met here this evening with Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon Alexander Soldatov to discuss the situation in Lebanon following recent Israeli air attacks on Beirut, the Palestinian news agency WAFA reported tonight. The agency said that at the end of the meeting, Mr 'Arafat gave the ambassador an important message for Soviet leaders, but its contents were not revealed.

DEMOCRATIC FRONT BUILDING HIT DURING 17 JUL RAID

JN171627 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1450 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] In this morning's Israeli bombing of the Al-Fakihani area of west Beirut, an administrative building of the DPFLP was hit. An official spokesman for the front said that the building also housed civilian families. Rescue work on this building is still going on. So far, 20 bodies have been dug out of the rubble. A report from just one hospital indicated that over 60 people were wounded in the attack on the front building. Other civilian buildings nearby were also damaged and are now uninhabitable. Many of the (?victims) were children, (?and) people are still buried under the rubble.

JOINT FORCES DENY ISRAEL BOMBED AD-DAMUR 18 JUL

JN121548 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1535 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] Brothers, we have just received the following from the central operations room of the joint forces:

Enemy sources have said that the Zionist enemy's air force bombed the Ad-Damur region this afternoon. We assert that this report is completely baseless and that this region has not been exposed to air bombing up to now.

VOP CARRIES DENIAL OF VOL BEIRUT EVACUATION REPORT

NC201002 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] The Phalangist radio [the Voice of Lebanon] has broadcast more than once what is described as a Palestinian decision to evacuate the citizens from Al-Jadidah Road and Al-Fakhani area. The joint command is concerned to affirm that this decision has not been and will not be issued by the Palestinian Revolution command or the joint forces command, in view of their firm belief that the masses are too strong to be harmed by the enemy's treacherous and criminal aggression.

The aims of the rumors and psychological war concomitant with the organized terrorist Zionist-U.S. aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian people, that has been going on for 6 days, are understood. The joint command is proud of the heroic Lebanese and Palestinian masses who have always fought, confronted aggression, embraced the revolution and defended it tooth and nail. The hostile force and internal time bombs will not succeed in striking at the steadfastness of these courageous heroic masses. With their faith and will, these masses will make their way for the Arab masses and nation toward dignity, pride and victory. If you will aid God, he will aid you, and plant your feet firmly. [Koranic verse] It is a revolution until victory.

It should be recalled that it is well known that the Zionist enemy radio adopts all the lies propagated by the Phalangist radio, a radio that is notorious for its lies. It is also well known that Zionist experts are supervising the transmission station of the isolationist radio in Al-Ashrafiyah.

LEBANESE POLITICAL COUNCIL DEBATES ISRAELI 'WAR'

NC181022 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0700 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] The central political council of the national and progressive parties and forces in Lebanon held a special meeting yesterday afternoon. Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] attended a part of this meeting at the head of a delegation representing the Palestinian Revolution Command. The council debated the political and military developments in the country in light of the Israeli aggression against Lebanon. As a result of this debate, the council came to the following conclusions:

1. The escalation of the savage aggression against Beirut, the south and other Lebanese areas on Friday 17 July 1981 constitutes a serious Israeli decision declaring a comprehensive war against Lebanon, its people, land and National Movement, and against the Arab forces participating in the battle of defending its Arabism. These forces are represented by the Palestinian revolution and Syria. This Israeli decision was crystallized by the criminal air raids and the heavy artillery shelling operations that have harvested hundreds of innocent citizens--martyrs and wounded--including a large number of old people, children and women. They have also inflicted enormous material damage to utilities and property.

2. If the Israeli enemy's government is now implementing the decision for a comprehensive war against Lebanon and those in it, then U.S. imperialism is the quarter that bears the responsibility for the Zionist war of extermination launched against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and directed against Syria, which supports them with its army, people and national leadership.

3. In confronting this war, in which Israel uses all the weapons of destruction and devastation in the U.S. arsenal, the National Movement declares that our struggling people will not bow down and that they accept the challenge of the war imposed on them and that they will stand fast and fight to defend their national existence, destroy the plot of Zionizing Lebanon, prevent the liquidation of the Palestinian revolution and preclude the striking of the Arab national cause as a whole.

4. The united combat stand of the Lebanese-Palestinian-Syrian national alliance will remain the first and definite guarantee to discharge the responsibility of confronting the consequences of this war, which Israel wants as a means to impose capitulation on the Arab region. Following the subjection of Beirut to shelling, the savagery of which is beyond imagination, it is the right and duty of the forces of this alliance, particularly the Syrian Arab forces, to mobilize all weapons to defend themselves and the Lebanese territory. Therefore, the National Movement demands the stationing of a SAM-6 missile network in Beirut to defend it against the Israeli air raids.

The movement also demands the reinforcement and development of the air and ground defenses in all regions which are the target of the Israeli military operations.

5. While noting the authority's continued adoption of the course of absolving itself of any responsibility for the defense of the lands of the homeland--Lebanon--against the Israeli attacks, the National Movement demands that this authority adopt the following stands immediately and without any hesitation or delay:

A. To resolve the question of the political confrontation with the Israeli aggression by placing all international organizations and Arab forces before their responsibilities of defending Lebanon. Official Lebanon must finally emerge from the circle of adapting its strides to the tempo of the U.S. policy, expose the U.S. stand which fully supports Israel and adopt a policy of frank alliance with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries and friendly forces that support Lebanon in its national battle.

B. To resolve the question of the military confrontation with the Israeli aggression by directing the official armed forces toward the confrontation of this aggression with all their means and resources and to offer all facilities to the Arab Deterrent Forces to enable them carry out their role in defending Lebanon.

C. To rise to the burden of tackling the enormous social problems resulting from the continuous Israeli aggression by mobilizing all the state's organs to meet the citizens' needs, reconstruct what has been destroyed, repair what has been damaged, secure means of livelihood and prevent any exploitation of the people's food under these difficult conditions.

6. The National Movement holds all Arab states responsible for standing in a tangible way, politically and militarily, on the side of the Lebanese and Arab peoples and on the side of Syria in this war whose consequences will not be confined to the determination of the fate of national Lebanon but will also affect the national destiny of the entire Arab nation. The National Movement stresses that our Lebanese masses will not forgive any Arab regime if it adopts the stand of a spectator to this fateful battle without any participation crystallizing the minimum national responsibility toward what is happening in the Lebanese arena.

7. The National Movement appeals to all the forces of liberation, progress and democracy in the world, to the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and to all the international bodies and world organizations to manifest their solidarity with our steadfast peoples and calls on them to condemn the aggression, punish its perpetrators and those encouraging it and give all kinds of aid to Lebanon, which is today shouldering the major burden of the comprehensive battle against the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary alliance.

KUWAIT

STATEMENT CONDEMNS ISRAELI 'AGGRESSION' IN LEBANON

LD191432 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1205 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Jul (KUNA)--Kuwait today strongly denounced "the brutal crimes" committed by Israel against Lebanon and declared its support for the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. It also held the United States partially responsible for these actions because of its constant arming of Israel.

A statement issued following the weekly Kuwaiti Cabinet meeting said that "the aggression was part of an overall plan followed by Israel to defy the will of the Arab nation and challenge Arab existence in general and destroy the Palestine revolution."

The statement appeals "to the Arab nation to rise to the level of its responsibility and shoulder the dictates of its destiny in the face of this flagrant challenge. It also "appealed" to the brothers in Lebanon to affirm the spirit of solidarity and accord among its sons and to stand united in the face of this ideal and the challenges of the treacherous Israeli enemy.

The statement affirms Kuwait's stand at the side of the Palestinian resistance in its just struggle and says that "Kuwait will continue to offer aid and support to the Palestinian people in their efforts to retrieve all their usurped rights."

The statement calls on the United Nations to take a "better stand" against these "abominable" Israeli aggressions.

The statement also appeals to the "world conscience to take a firm stand against these abominable crimes, which the enemy has been committing against mankind as a whole."

In its statement, the Kuwaiti Government said that "that aggression was yet further proof of enemy violations and that its aggression against the Palestinian Arab people in Lebanon was evidence of its criminal desire."

In a clear criticism of U.S. military support for Israel, the statement says "the blame does not fall on the shoulders of Israel alone, but also on the shoulders of the countries which bolster and arm the Israeli enemy, thus enabling it to carry out such sinful aggression against innocent members of our Arab people in Lebanon."

The statement calls on the United Nations to take a better stand against the Israeli enemy's constant attacks against the will of the Arab nation in general and the Palestinian people in particular.

JOINT ARAB DEFENSE COUNCIL MEETING WELCOMED

JN191447 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1425 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Jul (GNA)--Kuwait has welcomed the idea of holding a meeting of the joint Arab defense council called for by the PLO.

Dr 'Abd ar-Rahman al-'Awadi, Kuwaiti health minister and acting state minister for Cabinet affairs, said his country is willing to attend any Arab meeting at any level and at any time and place agreed upon to discuss the treacherous Israeli attacks on the Arab people in Lebanon. The Kuwaiti minister said that such action is the least that can be taken in light of the current situation.

SAUDI ARABIA

'RESPONSIBLE SOURCE' STATEMENT ON ISRAEL ATTACKS

LD191020 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] A responsible Saudi source has stated the following:

Israel's escalation of its brutal aggression against the towns and villages of Lebanon and its attacks against Lebanese residential quarters; its murdering of women, children and the aged; and its attempt to devastate vital civilian installations and Palestinian camps are all grave indications which prove and expose to the whole world Israel's aggressive expansionist intentions at the expense of Arab rights and its disregard for all values, laws and international traditions.

While most strongly denouncing this criminal aggression by the Zionist enemy, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia affirms its stand on the side of its brothers in Lebanon against these oppressive aggressions, which are directed against Lebanon's existence, safety and territorial integrity. It calls on the international community to support Lebanon by adopting firm measures to deter Israel from pursuing its aggressive designs against the Lebanese people and Arab rights.

Israel's insistence on escalating its aggression will undermine conditions in the Middle East. Israel's reescalation of aggression against Lebanon at a time when the Arab follow-up committee has been pursuing efforts to consolidate the cease-fire in Lebanon and when efforts to bring about national reconciliation among the parties in an attempt to contain the entire Lebanese crisis--efforts which have won the support and welcome of all Lebanon's friends out of their true desire to see security and stability prevail in it--are all clear indications of Israel's determination to undermine all the positive results achieved by the Arab follow-up committee on the way to final settlement of the Lebanese crisis. This clearly shows Israel's intention to partition Lebanon and to accomplish its expansionist ambitions, particularly in southern Lebanon.

In view of all this, it is the Arab nation to affirm today its determination to consolidate Arab solidarity, continue steadfastness and mobilize capabilities to face up to these challenges by the Zionist entity and to do so unitedly for the sake of our nation's glory and strength.

After consultations with its sister member countries of the Arab follow-up committee, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will work for placing the question of the recent Israeli aggression at the top of the committee's agenda, so that it may reach a firm Arab stand against these oppressive aggressions and adopt unified Arab measures against them.

UAE

UAE TO ATTEND ARAB DEFENSE COUNCIL MEETING

JN200830 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0730 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Jul (GNA)--The UAE has agreed to attend the emergency meeting of the joint Arab defense council called for by the PLO to discuss the deteriorating situation in Lebanon. The UAE Foreign Ministry informed the Arab League today of its readiness to attend any meeting at any level for the discussion of solidarity with the Palestinian and Lebanese people and the adoption of a joint Arab stand to confront the barbaric Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon.

FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON ISRAELI 'AGGRESSION'

NC180743 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0625 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] Cairo, 18 Jul (MENA)--Egypt has declared that it condemns the blatant Israeli aggression against the Lebanese people, saying that it escalates the tension in the region and undermines the peace process. Egypt has also declared its denunciation of the policy of the 'Alawite regime in Damascus, which aims at dominating Lebanon and opening wide the door of incernational polarization in the area.

In a statement issued by the Foreign Ministry last night, Egypt stressed that it will continue to stand firmly on the side of the Lebanese people and that it demands that an end be put to their continuing suffering by stopping the suspicious interferences in their domestic affairs. The following is the text of the Foreign Ministry's statement:

The government of the Arab Republic of Egypt is following with great concern the regrettable developments in the Lebanese arena, developments which are the result of the policy of blatant interference in Lebanon's domestic affairs by external forces whose only concern is to undermine the foundations of the Lebanese state in order to realize their own ambitions.

Proceeding from its first principles, Egypt demands that the hands be taken off Lebanon and that an end be put to the tampering with the destinies of the Lebanese people. Egypt condemns the blatant Israeli aggression against the Lebanese people, which will necessarily increase tension in the region, undermine the peace process and place more obstacles on the path of the comprehensive peace that is cherished by all peoples in the region.

Egypt further condemns the policy of the 'Alawite regime in Damascus, which aims at dominating Lebanon and opening wide the door of international polarization in the area. Egypt, which has stood firmly on the side of the fraternal Lebanese people in the past, continues to stand firmly on their side and calls for putting an end to their continuous suffering by stopping suspicious interferences in their domestic affairs.

Egypt also demands the unification of efforts by all forces to achieve a durable and just peace in the area that would guarantee the legitimate rights of the Palestinians and do away with all the causes of tension and disturbance.

Egypt believes that the first step in this regard must be a mutual and simultaneous recognition between Israel and the Palestinians, to serve as a basis for the comprehensive settlements.

PALESTINIANS REPORTEDLY REQUEST MEDICAL AID

NC191940 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Ambassador Usamah al-Baz today received Palestine National Council Members Suhdi al-Qudrah and Sa'id Kamal. They discussed the situation in Beirut and south Lebanon in the wake of the Israeli shelling. The discussions during the meeting also dealt with the request made by the Palestinian quarters concerned in the Arab Republic of Egypt to provide medical aid and contribute to treating the wounded.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES 17-19 JUL

Communique No 401

JN171708 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1610 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Jul (INA)--During the past 24 hours, the Iraqi Armed Forces inflicted fresh losses on the Persian enemy which amounted to 137 killed and various war equipment destroyed. Communique No 401 issues this evening by the Armed Forces General Command said that known enemy losses in equipment amounted to 1 infantry position, 3 tanks, 1 personnel carrier, 10 vehicles, 1 gun, 1 excavator, 3 stockpiles of hardware and 1 observation post destroyed. The text of Communique No 401 issued by the Armed Forces General Command is as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With confidence and high morale, the heroic Iraqi forces continued to strike at the enemy in the operational sectors. The results for last night and today are as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. One of our forward units attacked enemy positions and concentrations in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region and in a fierce battle the enemy lost 38 killed. In the same region, our forces hit enemy positions and concentrations with various weapons and inflicted on the enemy 14 killed and 1 tank and 3 vehicles destroyed.
B. Two enemy soldiers killed in the Gilan-e Gharb region.
C. Four killed in the Mimak region in front of our forces in Sayf Sa'd.
D. Our forward units attacked enemy positions in the Dezful region with various weapons, killing 28 and destroying 4 vehicles, 1 gun and 1 stockpile of hardware.
E. One tank, one vehicle, one excavator and one stockpile of hardware destroyed in the Shush region.
F. One of our forward units attacked enemy positions and concentrations in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region and in a fierce battle killed 34 enemy soldiers and destroyed 1 tank and 1 personnel carrier.
G. Eight killed and one vehicle destroyed in the Ahvaz region.
H. Nine killed and one infantry position, one vehicle, one stockpile of hardware and one observation post destroyed in the Abadan region.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 137 killed and 1 infantry position, 3 tanks, 1 personnel carrier, 10 vehicles, 1 gun, 1 excavator, 3 stockpiles of hardware and 1 observation post destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 14 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One vehicle damaged.
C. The Persian enemy this morning shelled the city of Basra using heavy artillery from the outskirts of Abadan. The shelling resulted in five civilians being injured.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 July 1981

Communique No 402

JN181629 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1610 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jul (INA)--Persian enemy infantry forces and Khomeyni guards have fled before the Iraqi Armed Forces, leaving behind 54 bodies in the Nowsud region in the north of the theater of operations.

Communique No 402 issued this evening by the Armed Forces General Command said that following a fierce battle in Nowsud between an Iraqi forward unit and groups of enemy infantry and Khomeyni guards, the enemy fled, leaving behind 54 dead, whose bodies are still on the battlefield. The communique added that known enemy losses in the past 24 hours amount to 107 killed and 1 infantry position, 4 vehicles, 2 excavators and 3 stockpiles of hardware destroyed. The text of Communique No 402 issued by the Armed Forces General Command is as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our armed forces continued their activities with efficiency in the operational sectors last night and today with the following results:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. One of our forward units engaged groups of enemy infantry and charlatan Khomeyni guards in the Nowsud region. Following a fierce battle, the enemy was forced to flee, sustaining 54 killed, whose bodies are still on the battlefield.
B. Two killed and one infantry position destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e region.
C. Our units pounded with various weapons an enemy personnel concentration in front of their positions in the Gilan-e Gharb region and forced it to retreat after sustaining 37 killed.
D. Four killed in the Dezful region.
E. Seven killed and four vehicles, three of which were loaded with personnel, destroyed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] region.
F. Three stockpiles of hardware destroyed in the Ahvaz region.
G. Three killed and two excavators destroyed in the Abadan region.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 107 killed and 1 infantry position, 4 vehicles, 2 excavators and 3 stockpiles of hardware destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 16 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Three vehicles damaged.
C. This afternoon, the Persian enemy shelled Basra with heavy artillery from the outskirts of Abadan. A total of 5 civilians were martyred and 16 others were wounded.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 July 1981

Communique No 403

JN191724 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1635 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jul (INA)--The Iraqi ground defense have shot down an Iranian Phantom as it raided the Dukan area in the northern province of As-Sulaymaniyah. The Iraqi forces also killed 50 Iranian enemy troops and destroyed 6 infantry positions, 1 tank, 2 vehicles, 3 stockpiles of hardware and 1 observation post. This was stated in Communique No 403 issued this evening by the Armed Forces General Command on the Iraqi forces' activities during the past 24 hours. The text of the communique follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant armed forces continued their activities in the theater of operations. The outcome is as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. Four killed and one infantry position and one gun destroyed in the Nowsud area.
B. One vehicle destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
C. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite our positions in the Gilan-e Gharb area. Our forces pounded the concentration, forcing it to retreat after leaving behind 10 killed.
D. Four killed in Sumar area.
E. Five killed and one observation post destroyed in the Mehran area.
F. Three killed in the Dezful area.
G. One stockpile of hardware destroyed in the Shush area.
H. Using various types of arms, our units pounded enemy positions and concentrations in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area, killing 16 and destroying 4 infantry positions, 1 tank and 1 stockpile of hardware.
I. Eight killed and one infantry position, one vehicle and one stockpile of hardware destroyed in the Abadan area.
J. Enemy planes today raided the Dukan area in As-Sulaymaniyah:
   1. They carried out a raid at 0445. They were intercepted by our ground defenses, which forced them to flee.
   2. One F-5 fighter plane carried out a raid at 0915. Our ground defenses intercepted and downed it.

Thus, known enemy losses amount to 50 killed and 6 infantry positions, 1 tank, 2 vehicles, 3 stockpiles of hardware and 1 observation post destroyed. One F-5 fighter plane was downed.

II. Our losses:

A. 10 martyrs in all sectors.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 July 1981

SADDAM HUSAYN SAYS IRAQ WILL BUILD MORE REACTORS

NC200625 Paris AFP in English 0614 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jul (AFP)--Iraq intends to build "two, five, ten nuclear reactors, according to its needs," despite the Iraqi [as received] air attack which damaged its existing plant at Tammuz on June 7, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn declared here defiantly Sunday.

He told a press conference that Iraq would ask France for help to rebuild the damaged research plant but would look elsewhere if Paris refused. French Government statements had been so ambiguous recently that it was difficult to know France's position, he said, despite Premier Pierre Mauroy's assertion that nuclear cooperation with Iraq would continue.

He called on France to take a "clearer and firmer" line in condemning the Israeli attack, and also criticised the failure of the French technicians at the Tammuz plant to come up with plans to protect the reactor before it was hit.

The president expressed satisfaction at Saudi Arabia's decision to pay for the rebuilding of the plant.

REPORTAGE ON ISRAELI RAIDS, EVACUATION CALL

17 Jul Report

NC171942 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Excerpts] The Israeli raids, under the heading "the war of the bridges," added to the list of bombardments today the Ad-Damur bridge and two other bridges on the Al-Litani and Az-Zahrani Rivers. The number of destroyed bridges has risen to nine in yesterday's and today's raids. The loss of life has been huge and beyond any imagination: While some sides have reported that no less than 175 persons have died and 600 have been wounded, WAFA has reported that 153 persons have been killed and 479 have been wounded. WAFA added that 26 persons were killed and 90 were wounded in the south. The radio correspondents have reported that two-thirds of the casualties have been innocent Lebanese and that the number of the casualties is not final because rescue and civil defense teams are still working at raising bodies from under the debris of the destroyed houses.

Field hospitals have been set up in addition to the clinics in Sabra and the other camps. The American University Hospital and the Abyrut, Al-Amqasid, Al-Barbir, Al-Quds and Gaza hospitals are filled with wounded. All these hospitals together have 550 wounded persons. The health ministry hospitals have been placed in a state of emergency to receive casualties.

The streets and posts were filled with pedestrians and gatherings at 1000 today when the three Israeli raids took place, causing the large number of casualties. The streets were also crowded with cars and the inhabitants had gone out for shopping at that time. Many residential building were destroyed. The Fatah operations headquarters in Al-Fakihani, the Arab Liberation Front headquarters in the area of the Arab University of Beirut, the Democratic Popular Front headquarters near Ad-Dana station, the As-Sa'iqah post near the Kuwaiti Embassy and a Fatah post near Summerland were also destroyed. It is noted here that these posts were not only destroyed, but their presence in various buildings caused the destruction of apartments in these buildings. In this regard, the radio correspondents report that all the buildings in the areas of Al-Fakihani, Sabra, the Arab University of Beirut, Cola and Ad-Dana have been vacated and most of the inhabitants have gone to the shelters.

On the road leading to the sports city 28 bodies and about 50 wounded persons have been spotted. It has also been repoted that 16 (?prisoners) are still under the debris of the Democratic Front building, which has been destroyed.

At 1115 all the Fatah commands were meeting in a building belonging to the "17" organization near the office of Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] in Al-Fakihani. The building was damaged by the raids and a number of dead persons were removed to the Gaza hospital.

At 1350, four Phantoms and four F-15's launched a concentrated raid on Ad-Damur Bridge in view of its importance in linking the road between Beirut and Sidon. In this regard, it has been noted that the UNIFIL area of operations in the south has become almost isolated due to the destruction of the bridges and to the raids from air and the sea around it.

19 Jul Report

NC191652 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] The Israeli attacks against Lebanon continued today from land, sea and air. At a time when U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib was getting ready for a second session of talks with Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, the Israeli warplanes were alternating with the long-range artillery to wreak more death and destruction on the Lebanese towns and villages.

The reports arriving from the south have indicated that the Isareli warplanes, which continued to overfly the area since the morning at 1400 today, raided Qal'at ash-Shaqif, the radar area Al-Majzariyah heights, Al-'Addusiyah and Az'Zahrani in addition to the highways linking Az'Zahrani with An'Nabatiyah.

At the same time, another formation of Israeli planes were carrying out a similar attack on the Ar-Rashidiyah area. Before 1500 today, the Israeli planes shelled Al-Wadi Al-Akhdar and then at 1525 expanded its attacks and raided the areas of Al-Hamra', Ash-Shaqif, Kfar Tibnit and Qasr Al-As'ad. The ground resistance strongly intercepted the raiding planes. Israel has admitted its latest attack.

At noon today, the artillery shelling was resumed against Sidon. The NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY office in the township has reported that two shells fell on the township at 1100. The shelling was resumed at 1145, killing Mahmud Khudr Zahra and wounding Yusuf al-Baba, Mustafa Jallul and Bilal al-Baba.

Moreover, at 1300 the Israeli artillery shelled the township of An-Nabatiyah, and the surrounding villages. Initial assessments have indicated that 10 persons were killed or wounded.

For their part, the Israeli gunboats participated in the attacks today. Around 1130 they shelled the Az-Zahrani area and the environs of the destroyed bridge.

Evacuation Request Reported

NC191320 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] The western area of Beirut is experiencing a serious situation portending the displacement of people and the abandonment of houses and property to leave them prey to a war of air raids.

The Lebanese leaders in the area today called for studying this tragic situation. They called for meetings at the Islamic grouping. It has been decided to ask the leaders, who are now outside Lebanon, to return quickly so as to adopt an urgent stand on the situation.

It has been reiterated that this situation will be discussed in Damascus today by a number of party leaders who left to meet with [Syrian Foreign] Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

The serious situation is summed up in that the Palestinian Military Council issued a decision at dawn today calling on all the civilian inhabitants in west Beirut, particularly those whose houses are close to the Palestinian offices and centers, especially in Al-Fakihani, At-Tariq al-Jadidah, the Arab University and Bi'r Hasan to leave their houses. The number of inhabitants is more than 100,000 citizens. The inhabitants were informed of this decision at 0230 today. Local committees representing the Islamic groupings and some political and social organizations have hurried to study this matter. Meanwhile, it appears that the Palestinians have begun to set up military groupings and networks with sophisticated weapons.

Southern Shelling Continues

NC200600 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] The Israeli aggression against Lebanon did not stop last night. Warplanes continued to drop flares over the south while long-range artillery pounded An-Nabatiyah, Az-Zahrani and Habbush.

Yesterday's attacks, in which aircraft, warships and artillery were used against the various parts of the south from Sidon to Ar-Rashidiyah and An-Nabatiyah, were committed against the background of Israeli statements confirming that the aggression will continue.

Commando Raid Reported

NC200619 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Excerpts] The Israeli aggression against the south continued last night, for the fifth day running, causing more disasters and death at dawn today. This is in addition to the destruction and heavy material losses.

An Israeli commando unit at dawn today committed an aggression east of Az-Zahrani. An Israeli military spokesman has admitted that six Israeli soldiers were wounded in the operation.

Some reports say that 2,000 shells fell on the south yesterday.

SARKIS CONDEMNS ISRAELI AIR ATTACK ON BEIRUT

NC181650 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Jul 81

["Official information" released by Cabinet Secretary Dr 'Umar Musaykah on the 18 July Cabinet meeting held at Republican Palace in Ba'bda under President Ilyas Sarkis--read by announcer]

[Text] At the beginning of the meeting, President Ilyas Sarkis condemned the Israeli air strikes against several places in Lebanon, which yesterday culminated in an attack on Beirut and its suburbs in addition to southern Lebanon. He denounced Israel's so-called preemptive strike policy, saying: Regardless of Israel's pretexts, we reject this logic, particularly since the majority of the victims of the Israeli raids and attacks are Lebanese, as is happening in the south and as happened yesterday in Beirut and its suburbs, where hundreds of people were killed or wounded by artillery and rocket bombardments and savage air attacks.

The president of the Republic expressed concern at Israel's aggressive goals behind its destruction of bridges to isolate Lebanese areas and Lebanese citizens from other areas and its threat to again destroy these bridges if they are repaired or rebuilt. He also expressed regret at the inability of the world community to force Israel to implement and adhere to the UN resolutions and to respect the rights of states and peoples in accordance with the principles of international law.

President Sarkis reaffirmed what he had already demanded at the Arab and Islamic summit conferences--namely, that it is necessary for the Arab states to agree on a unified strategy vis-a-vis the Arab-Israeli conflict and that Lebanon alone should not suffer the consequences of this conflict. President Sarkis warned against any delay in implementing the Arab summit conference resolutions in this regard.

Afterward, Prime Minister al-Wazzan spoke about the continuous Israeli attacks against the south and about the victims they have caused, most of them women and children, in addition to the damage and destruction. Prime Minister al-Wazzan noted that the brutal Israeli air attacks on Beirut yesterday killed and wounded hundreds of people and caused destruction in densely populated areas. What happened can truly be described as a wholesale massacre about which the world conscience must not keep silent or hesitate to strongly condemn. Israel must also not be left unpunished for its indulgence in aggression and tyranny.

Prime Minister Al-Wazzan explained the contacts he has held with the U.S. and Soviet ambassadors to explain the Lebanese issue and the responsibilities it imposes on the fraternal and friendly states.

Prime Minister Al-Wazzan said: Lebanon is now facing historic dangers. It is our destiny that we are facing these dangers while we are almost defenseless. We will continue the efforts to deter the dangers to our country, while emphasizing the need to draw up a unified Arab strategy against Israel's ambitions and its aggressive designs.

Afterward, the Cabinet listened to army commander Gen Victor Khuri, who explained the situation arising from the attacks in the south and the capital. It also listened to Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni, who briefed the Cabinet on the situation at the UN Security Council regarding the Lebanese complaint and the diplomatic contacts on this subject.

The Cabinet discussed the overall situation in light of the current developments. Following deliberations, the Cabinet decided:

1. To continue the contacts and consultations with the brotherly and friendly states in order to support Lebanon in its activity to stop the attacks and their consequences and all other dangers.
2. To follow up the Lebanese complaint against Israel at the UN Security Council. For this purpose, Ambassador Tuwayni has been asked to travel to New York.
3. To rebuild the bridges that have been destroyed by the Israeli air strikes, reconnect the Lebanese areas as soon as possible and rebuild damaged public utilities and properties.
4. To recruit the public departments and institutions to give the necessary services and humanitarian aid to those who have sustained losses.
5. To invite the Higher Defense Council to discuss the situation arising from the continuous Israeli attacks.

AL-WAZZAN SPEAKS AFTER 18 JUL CABINET MEETING

NC181547 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] The Cabinet meeting, which was devoted to discussing the situation arising from the Israeli military operations and which was attended by Army Commander Gen Victor Khuri, sneior army commanders and Lebanon's permanent Ambassador to the United Nations Ghassan Tuwayni, lasted 4 hours, following which Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said:

As you know, the Cabinet held an extraordinary session to discuss an extraordinary situation that resulted from Israel's criminal attacks yesterday and the day before yesterday. These attacks caused a human massacre in Lebanon, the likes of which the Arab East has rarely witnessed. Nevertheless, we confronted the situation according to our capabilities. If our material capabilities are few, our moral capabilities are strong, because they are derived from the Lebanese people's faith in the unity of their country. Undoubtedly, we are awaiting a great deal of support and assistance from our Arab brothers. We are also awaiting support from the world community at the United Nations.

The Cabinet reviewed several issues. It summoned the army commander and his aides to learn from them certain clarifications, interpretations and probabilities. It also summoned Lebanon's UN ambassador to learn from him about the course of Lebanon's complaint to the United Nations. We consulted on the stand that must be taken and the basic guidelines that Ambassador Tuwayni must be provided with when he leaves for the United Nations to follow up the issue there. Naturally, the Security Council has issued an initial statement calling for a cease-fire and expressing unanimous regret. However, this is not what we have been waiting for. We are awaiting something more far-reaching than a denunciation, which we have been accustomed not to obtain under such circumstances. This time, we are depending on our brothers and on the conscience of the world community to do justice to Lebanon and stop the attacks against it.

The Cabinet discussed the necessary services to the citizens and work that must be done after these attacks. Thus, the rebuilding of the bridges was the first thing it thought of. By destroying the bridges the enemy wanted to dismember the country. Out of our faith in the unity of our homeland and people, we are determined to rebuild these bridges even if they will be destroyed again. The departments concerned have been given orders to serve the citizens, especially those who have sustained losses.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: We must look forward [as heard] now that we have found ourselves helpless with no one to defend us and no one to protect our skies. We feel national shame and the world must feel shame as a result of these attacks which are taking place within the hearing and sight of the United Nations, as well within the hearing and sight of its forces in the south.

We have also invited the Higher Defense Council to deal with the situation in a manner compatible with our capabilities so that perhaps we will be able to erase even a little of this national shame from us.

Asked if contacts have begun or will begin with the Arab countries so that they might help Lebanon politically and militarily, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: As I said, contacts are underway on the Arab and international levels. We have decided to intensify these contacts so that we may obtain the greatest possible help from these brothers and friends.

Asked when the Higher Defense Council will meet, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: I will address an invitation to convene the council after I consult with President Sarkis on Monday. In other words, the invitation will be addressed on Monday and the date of the meeting will be fixed.

Asked whether what is taking place will affect the work of the Arab followup committee and the date of its upcoming meeting, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: Naturally, it will have an effect, but we expect a positive effect.

INFORMATION MINISTER COMMENTS ON ISRAELI ACTS

NC191927 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] Information Minister Michel Iddih has talked to the evening journal [the radio reporter] about the intensity and ferocity of the Israeli acts of aggression. He pointed out that the deterioration of the tense situation in the south is threatening an explosion in the whole area. He called for the unity of the national ranks in the present serious circumstances.

Minister Iddih said that the recent Israeli acts of aggression against Lebanon and the comprehensive and ferocious character of these acts in Beirut and the south make us view the situation as a turning point in the course of the conflict with Israel and in the situation which Lebanon has reached as a result of this. Lebanon now finds itself in the position of a country of confrontation with Israel without making any decision in this respect and without having the ability and the capabilities of confrontation. It is now the only battlefield in which everybody is fighting. Its land and airspace are open for all kinds of Israeli air, naval and ground military actions. Lebanese are being martyred in their hundreds and Lebanese property, houses and means of livelihood are being destroyed.

Minister Iddih went on to say: This situation, which has been going on for some time and which is likely to continue and indeed to escalate--according to the statements made by the Israeli leaders and their movements--has in recent days reached the peak of cruelty and barbarism when the Israeli planes bombed the city of Beirut and destroyed extensive residential areas causing hundreds of victims--something which so far has not been experienced in any phase of the conflict between the Arabs and Israel. Since 1948, no Arab city or capital has been subjected to such an unexpected bloody bombardment, especially outside the framework of a declared war. This change in the nature of the Israeli acts of aggression makes it incumbent upon us to ponder a number of facts:

1. An escalation of the acts of aggression and ferocious bombardment appears to be expected in the near future, especially since there is nothing to indicate so far that it is possible, whether on the Arab or international level, to prevent Israel from repeating its raids and acts of aggression against Lebanon and from expanding the scope of its aggression.

2. The reiterated denunciations, condemnations, resentments and concern and other such statements are simply wornout expressions which, if anything, indicate the extent of abandonment in which we find ourselves and the extent of unconcern we have been experiencing and continue to experience from the brother Arabs and friends alike. Lebanon, which has warned and drawn attention more than once, has called for the adoption of the only appropriated stand for confronting the Israeli acts of aggression--namely, the adoption of a unified Arab strategy to confront our extremely serious situation. Is Lebanon, in its present situation, to be left prey to all kinds of acts of aggression, raids and other Israeli actions?

Minister Iddih added: At the conference which convened in Tunis in November 1979, Lebanon called for such a joint plan to be worked out. It made the same request at the At-Ta'if conference as well as at all the special conferences and at the successive meetings with the Arab leaders. Despite the fact that all the conferences had supported and approved Lebanon's request, nothing was done. Even with regard to the financial aid which the Arab brothers had voluntarily sanctioned at the Tunis conference and which amounts to $400 million annually for a period of 5 years, approximately $200 million have been paid--about half of the amount earmarked for 1980--after the passage of about 20 months since the Tunis conference. Nothing has been paid so far of the amount earmarked for 1981. If financial aid, which is the easiest kind of assistance from the Arab brothers, has not been achieved, then how could a comprehensive Arab strategy be achieved--a strategy that would rescue Lebanon and provide it with the required Arab support?

3. The possibilities of the deterioration of the situation in the south will cause an eruption in the entire area. This is what Lebanon has been warning about for a long time. Minister Iddih added: There are a number of points which must be given thought at this extremely grave phase:

A. The Palestinian people's struggle for recognition of their legitimate rights and the establishment of a Palestinian state on the land of Palestine is tarnished with a principal point of weakness--namely, the nonexisting organization of the phased Palestinian presence on Lebanese territory. This point of weakness had been and is still being exploited by Israel in order to erupt and aggravate contradictions between the Palestinians and the various Lebanese groups to serve its objectives. The Palestinians must exercise self-criticism, admit their mistakes and correct them and be aware of this situation as soon as possible in order to prevent Israel from benefiting from it and touching this soft spot which exposes Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance to grave dangers.

B. This Israeli escalation manifested in attacks on Lebanese territory, claiming the lives of several innocent Lebanese during these conditions in which we are suffering from other crises, must compel all the Lebanese to examine their national stands because Lebanon is in imminent danger and its entity and existence are threatened. The situation being as it is, it is not feasible for us to remain preoccupied in side confrontations, be they military or political. They are battles whose triviality and how they had served and are still serving Israel are becoming apparent to us today. When we ask the Arabs for a unified strategy, it would be more appropriate for us that we, the Lebanese, whould have a unified strategy as well--a strategy that is incorporated in agreement with the legitimacy of a minimum joint program in whose implementation the Arab brothers, foremost sister Syria, will help us so as to end the state of the stupid infighting in which we have been fumbling for 7 years.

Since a unity of ranks has appeared in the wake of the declared stands that have been conveyed to the president and on the basis of the denunciation expressed by the National Front leaders in the aftermath of the sanguinary Israeli raid, it has become easy, with the assistance of the Arab followup committee, to reach the desired accord to enable us to confront the imminent perils and to return to a common sound life.

C. No matter how the war activities are escalated and repeated and their ferocity and bloodiness are increased, Israel must know that no state or power had been able to eliminate a resistance or a national liberation movement in the way it is seeking. The history of the twentieth century is fraught with the liberation movements that had become stronger, more established, and then had triumphed, after they had been exposed to persecution and blows. The liberation movements in Vietnam and Algeria are proofs of this. It appears that the Israeli public opinion itself had been confused by the fierce method followed by the Israeli leadership. This confusion has appeared in most of the views and reports of the main Israeli newspapers recently. We make special mention of HA'ARETZ, the Jerusalem POST, 'AL-HAMISHMAR and others.

Minister Iddih concluded by saying: Israel has to realize that the only course that has no alternative for resolving the Palestinian problem is the political solution and the negotiations that are mainly based on the recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and the acceptance of the establishment of a Palestinian state on the land of Palestine. Israel must also realize that any partial or secondary solution will only be based on conjecture and will absolutely not lead to the state of the desired firm and just peace.

ENVOY LEAVES FOR UN 19 JULY; MAKES STATEMENT

NC191430 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] The diplomatic Lebanese activity will today move to the United Nations. At noon today, the Lebanese UN permanent representative, Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni, left Beirut for New York via London. He is expected to arrive at his post tonight. Ambassador Tuwayni was seen off by Tourism Minister Marwan Hamadan.

At the airport, Ambassador Tuwayni made the following statement to our correspondent Darwish 'Ammar: [Begin recording] My most important task was giving the Cabinet a clear picture about the possibilities along which we can proceed on all aspects of the Security Council. Also, in reply to a question by one of the ministers, I had emphasized that the Security Council is not a court house where we can conduct trials, nor is it a club composed of 15 members [words indistinct]. The Security Council is a meeting point of 15 policies that are decided by 15 governments representing 15 states selected by the international community. Thus, the stands and decisions in the Security Council are political. What the Cabinet decided yesterday is no longer a secret: Lebanon has asked for, insisted, that an immediate statement be issued on the same day the discussion of its complaint began. That statement was issued and it contained a call for a cease-fire. The cease-fire was not implemented. Therefore, it has become possible and necessary to move now to the second phase. A decision has been prepared in light of what the cabinet had discussed. This decision, which was sent to New York yesterday, was based on two principal points, namely, affirmation of the cease-fire and finding practical means for its implementation, and denouncing the Israeli aggression and requesting that sanctions be imposed against Israel according to UN law if it does not abide by the cease-fire decision.

[Question by an unidentified correspondent] Your Excellency Mr Ambassador: There is a precedent concerning Lebanon with the Security Council that the statements issued by it always denounced Israel but we always used to see Israel resume its attacks. Do you believe a statement of denunciation is sufficient?

[Answer] No, no it is not sufficient. I warn against expecting manna and solace from the Security Council. One of the ministers has said that I had mentioned that there were 13 pending questions before the Security Council. I may have said that and [words indistinct]. However, I drew the Cabinet's attention to the fact that there are at least four wars before the Security Council and that they have not ended. These are: The Iraqi-Iranian war, the Afghan war, the PRC and Vietnam, Kampuchea, Africa, etc. The Security Council succeeds in the implementation of decisions that safeguard states when it acts as an umbrella for an international agreement in this regard. Thus, the decision in the end is the decision which we as Lebanese must take and to take it in agreement with the Arab group. We can then impose our stand as a capable group. However, calling the world and wailing at walls are matters which do not yield any result.

Lebanon has been lucky and I have said this frankly before the Cabinet yesterday, because it is the only country among the Arab states--and I have repeated this many times before today--and maybe the world recently. Lebanon has been the only country which had regained territory in accordance with a Security Council resolution. Moreover, in the 1978 aggression, the Security Council was able to dispatch UN forces to Lebanon to secure the withdrawal of the Israeli Army and establish a peace zone in less than 48 hours. There has been no precedent for this. Thus, Lebanon has been the Security Council's pampered child up to now, if we can use this expression. However, the Security Council cannot give us more than we ourselves can give to ourselves.

AL-WAZZAN COMMENTS AFTER MEETING U.S., USSR ENVOYS

NC171825 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] In the Republican Palace Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan briefed President Ilyas Sarkis in the presence of Ambassador at-Tuwayni on his talks with the Arab ambassadors. Soon afterwards, U.S. Ambassador Robert Dillon and Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Soldatov, who were sent for by President Sarkis, arrived separately. Sarkis wanted to tell the ambassadors to convey to their governments what Lebanon is being subjected to and what it expects from the two superpowers, particularly since Lebanon has asked the UN Security Council to convene an emergency session to adopt various effective measures that will ensure Lebanon's sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity. These are the goals of the Security Council resolutions according to which it sent the UNIFIL forces to the south. However, the goals that are clearly specified in the resolutions have not been completely and soundly carried out.

After the meetings with the U.S. and Soviet ambassador in the palace, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: [Begin recording] It was natural that we should pay the necessary attention to these painful events. After holding contacts with the Arab ambassadors whom I called to the Government House, we met with the U.S. and Soviet ambassadors to brief them on the atmosphere, information and events. We have informed the ambassadors that Lebanon has lodged an urgent complaint and that it asks that they adhere to the UN principles and back these principles in the stand that must be adopted toward the Lebanese complaint. President Sarkis and I have agreed on calling on the Cabinet to hold an extraordinary meeting tomorrow at 1000. [end recording]

The U.S. ambassador emerged from the meeting and did not make any statement. The Soviet ambassador, however, answered a numer of newsmen's questions. In answer to a question he said: My personal view and that of the Soviet Union and people is summed up in that we completely condemn the Israeli aggression and raids on Lebanon. Explaining the Soviet Government stand, he said:

I am quite sure that the Soviet Government will support all measures and proposals that the Lebanese Government will make aimed at completely condemning the Israeli aggression and putting an end to these actions. In reply to a question, he said: I do not want to interfere in Lebanon's internal affairs.

ENVOY SAYS LIBYA READY TO GIVE MILITARY HELP

NC181900 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] At 1630 today Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan received 'Abd al-Qadir Ghuqah, head of the Libyan People's Bureau in Beirut. Following the meeting, Ghuqah said: We discussed the current stage, its requirements and our Arab duties of which we are aware. We know what we want, we know who our enemy is, and we know what we must do. I hope that the obstacles that so far have prevented the Arab people from seriously confronting their real enemies will be removed.

Ghuqah added: Lebanon's demand from the Arab countries has become clear, which is that they must defend its territory and that a unified Arab strategy must be adopted. Our opinion in this connection is also clear. We believe that it is impossible for this strategy to be adopted while the present regrettable Arab laxity continues. We have asked the prime minister to confront each Arab country with its responsibility. We believe the current situation requires all Arab countries to do their share in defending Lebanon and not to resort to pretexts.

Ghuqah said: In the past I have met with the prime minister and offered him all of Libya's military capabilities, including a complete air cover. We do not claim that this air cover will prevent aggression, but we can say that no aggression will go unpunished or without paying a price. Our capabilities are ready, but Lebanon has special circumstances which we hope we will overcome. Once this becomes possible, we in the Jamahiriyah are ready to participate with our army, our armed forces and with all our weapons. I expressed to the prime minister our readiness to seriously participate with all we have and without limits.

AL-WAZZAN CITED ON MEETING WITH 'ARAFAT 18 JUL

NC190627 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan met last night at his residence with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in the presence of Sa'd Sayil--Abu al-Walid--member of Fatah Central Committee.

After the meeting prime minister Al-Wazzan said: The meeting was held for consultation on the serious situation resulting from the Israeli aggressions. There is no doubt that coordination between us and the Palestinian brothers is very necessary under these circumstances, as in fact it is under all circumstances. It even becomes more important in view of the fateful and special situation we are facing.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan added: There was agreement of views on certain matters and useful measures at more than one level.

FOUR ISRAELI PLANES REPORTED DOWNED 17 JUL

JN180532 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] Beirut--Yesterday, Israel launched a barbaric aggression against several Lebanese areas and Israeli planes raided civilian targets in Beirut, inflicting heavy human and material losses. Our ground forces in Lebanon intercepted the enemy planes and downed one plane in southern Lebanon, which was seen falling in Marj 'Uyun. The shot down another, which was seen falling in flames into the sea. A military spokesman has stated that at 1500 yesterday, Friday, 17 July 1981, during the enemy air force's strafing of the Palestinian resistance positions in Maydun and (Jisr as-Sariri) in southern Lebanon, our ground forces intercepted the planes and managed to shoot down one enemy plane, which was seen falling in the Marj 'Uyun area.

The military spokesman has also stated that at 1115 yesterday, 17 July 1981, formations of enemy planes raided Palestinian camps in Beirut. Our ground defenses intercepted them and hit one of them, which was set on fire and fell into the sea. The ground defenses of the Palestinian resistance also shot down two Israeli warplanes during the enemy planes' attack on Palestinian camps and civilian targets in western Beirut at noon yesterday. News agencies cited eyewitnesses as saying the two planes were seen falling in flames in the direction of the sea.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY MEETS, DISCUSSES ATTACKS

JN191540 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] In Damascus, the People's Assembly held a session at noon today under Speaker Mahmud Hadid. Several ministers attended the session. At the outset, some of the members spoke on the barbaric attack launched by Israel the day before yesterday against Lebanon and the Palestinian camps. They affirmed in their speeches that the Arab nation's primary enemy is the United States, which is driving Israel to launch attacks against the Arab nation.

The assembly then discussed issues on its agenda. It approved a number of legislative decrees. The session was adjourned until 1100 tomorrow.

Further Report on Session

JN192019 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Excerpts] The People's Assembly held a session this morning under Speaker Mahmud Hadid. The ministers of state for People's Assembly affairs, health affairs and communications affairs [titles as heard] attended the session. At the outset, Dr Muhsin Bilal spoke on the criminal Zionist, imperialist attack against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, asking about the Arab reply to this aggression and affirming that we in Syria are proud of the noble and steadfast stand adopted by our people and its leadership. Dr Bilal added that Syria supports the PLO's appeal to the Arabs to martial their resources in confronting the enemy and to use all their weapons, including oil. Dr Bilal proposed a speedy formation of medical units to save those wounded as a result of the Zionist attack on Lebanon.

Several People's Assembly members called for using all the Arabs' weapons to deter aggression, pointing out that if some continue to ignore the goals of the plot fabricated by Washington and implemented by its aggressive instrument in the region--Israel--the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples will be easy prey to the enemy's weapons.

Prior to the discussion of the People's Assembly's agenda, the health minister declared that Syria will soon dispatch a health mission to Lebanon to render the necessary services to the victims of the barbaric Zionist attack on the capital, Beirut. The health minister replied to questions posed by the People's Assembly's members on the cholera epidemic, saying that the country is completely free of this epidemic. He added that all procedures and preparations have been adopted to confront all possibilities.

MILITARY FORCES HIT 'TERRORIST' TARGETS IN LEBANON

19 Jul Air Attack

TA191925 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] The Israeli Air Force planes at noon attacked regional headquarters and terrorist bases near Tyre, near An-Nabatiyah and at the Beaufort Castle in southern Lebanon. The IDF spokesman reports that all our planes returned safely to base. The attack lasted for about an hour and terrorist bases were hit. Also hit were artillery positions from which the terrorists had shelled the Galilee panhandle and the western Galilee.

Military correspondent Dan Semama reports that the Fatah and Nayif Hawatimah's Democratic Front regional headquarters were attacked in the An-Nabatiyah area. These commands control the terrorists' eastern sector in southern Lebanon, each of them controlling about 500 terrorists in the area. Terrorist bases inside caves and tents and other bases and positions from which the Katyushas and 130-mm shells have been fired were hit in this area.

In the Tyre area the air force planes struck at a terrorist base and in the Az-Zahrani area terrorist Katyusha and artillery positions were bombed.

Night Ground Raid

TA200516 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] As we have heard, during the night the IDF acted against terrorist targets in Lebanon. Military correspondent Shmu'el Tal is here in the studio:

The IDF action last night was aimed against a target east of the Az-Zahrani River estuary, in Mazraat al-Musaylih, about 4 km from the estuary. There was a building there and dug-in positions used by the terrorists. The site controlled the main highway to An-Nabatiyyah. The force's soldiers moved to the targets through difficult terrain.

Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori has said that as long as Lebanon is a base for terrorists, the IDF will continue to hit them in all sorts of ways:

[Begin recording] [Tzipori] What has been typical of this last week has been more aerial actions and rapid firing actions. We decided to also resume actions from the land and, in fact, one of these actions was a confrontation with terrorists. The terrorists were caused losses and we have a number of casualties. [end recording]

[Tal] The IDF spokesman has just reported that the IDF force had seven injured. At the same time as the action in Mazraat Al-Musaylih, naval vessels shelled terrorist targets on the coastal road between Tyre and Sidon. Also during the night the terrorists fired several times from southern Lebanon. They fired Katyusha rockets at the Galilee panhandle and western Galilee. As stated, nobody was injured and the IDF returned the fire.

20 Jul Air Attack

TA200856 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0853 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] Here is another announcement by the IDF spokesman: This morning air force planes attacked terrorist objectives in southern Lebanon. Military correspondent Sha'ul Stav reports that the targets attacked are in the region of the Az-Zahrani River estuary and the Beaufort Castle in southern Lebanon. All our planes returned safely to their bases.

BEGIN REITERATES POLICY ON LEBANESE CIVILIANS

TA191951 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1947 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] Prime Minister Begin reiterated and made clear again this evening that from now on, as in the past, we will not direct our fire toward the civilian population in Lebanon. If the terrorists establish headquarters and bases near or amid the civilian population, we will continue to attack them and responsibility for this will be shouldered by those who knowingly situate themselves among civilians. These are the prime minister's remarks this evening.

HABIB RETURNS TO ISRAEL FOR MEETINGS WITH BEGIN

TA181836 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Excerpt] Philip Habib is to meet with the prime minister and the foreign minister tomorrow in Jerusalem. Habib returned today to Israel from Saudi Arabia. A senior political source has stressed that Habib will again be told that Israel is acting against the terrorists from self-defense and, unless the attacks against our settlements stop, Israel will not be able to refrain from acting.

Israeli Position Outlined

TA182033 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] What will Habib be told? Tomorrow the prime minister will tell Philip Habib that Israel regards its attacks against the terrorist bases in Lebanon as a legitimate act of self defense. Whatever the reactions in the United States, Israel will continue with these attacks in order to prevent the killing of innocent Israeli civilians. Political correspondent Elimelekh Ram reports on Israel's position in view of the official statements in Washington and the holdup of the announcement about the resumption of the supplies of the F-16's:

Political circles are drawing our attention to the announcement the prime minister's office issued last night. The IDF has for years taken care, it said, not to harm the civilian population, but since last week the terrorist organizations launched a massive offensive against the civilian population in Israel. The IDF will attack bases and command headquarters belonging to the terrorists even if they have been deliberately sited close to population centers or inside them.

From the text of this announcement we can understand that if the Katyusha shelling of civilian population centers in Israel stops, the IDF will return to its way of operating in the recent past: strikes at the terrorist bases and their headquarters, while taking great care to avoid hitting civilians. It may be understood that this is what the prime minister will tell the U.S. envoy Philip Habib tomorrow morning.

In Jerusalem it is believed that the supply of the F-16's will soon be resumed and the possibility is not being dismissed that the suspension of the announcement about the resumption of the dispatches originates in the escalation that occurred on the northern border at the end of the week.

As for the future of relations with the United States, government sources told us today that difficulties were to be expected in the forseeable future, which will be expressed in the expected meeting between the prime minister and President Reagan at the beginning of September, especially before the resumption of the autonomy negotiations. In the meantime, Habib's main mission--a solution to the missile crisis--appears at this stage to be most marginal.

19 Jul Morning Meeting

TA191222 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] Prime Minister Begin is to meet later this afternoon with U.S. envoy Philip Habib for their second round of talks today on the situation in Lebanon. The two men met this morning for a little over an hour. More on this from reporter Alan Ben-'Ami:

Philip Habib came to the region 3 months ago to try and prevent the shooting war over the issue of the Syrian surface-to-air missiles that were brought into Lebanon. Now he has been ordered by President Reagan to divert from that mission and try to stop the shelling and the bombing that has intensified during the last week between Israel and the terrorists in Lebanon. The Americans are concerned at the scope of the violence and the possibility that it could spread even further and Mr Habib wants both sides to stop the shooting immediately. This was the message he brought to his meeting with Prime Minister Begin and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this morning. Also taking part was the chief of Israel's Army intelligence, Maj Gen Yehoshu'a Sagi. The message from the Israeli side was as clear as the American one: Israel neither initiated nor was interested in continuing cross-border military operations but, at the same time, it is not prepared to let its people be killed, injured or endangered by terror raids, Katyusha rockets or any other military activity. Mr Habib was given a detailed briefing on how the terrorists are taking on the shape of a regular military force, with bigger and better weapons coming to them from Libya, Syria and the eastern bloc countries, including tanks, artillery and powerful, 40-at-a-time Katyusha rocket launchers. He was told that Israel, as it has done in the past, holds responsible anyone who aids the terrorists, as well as the governments of the countries from where they operate and Israel is demanding that the Lebanese Government end the terrorist activity from its territory--but it is recognized here that the chances of this happening are slight. The Lebanese Government still lacks authority and power and it is too susceptible to Syrian influence. Syria, then, is considered to be the key factor in bringing the shooting to an end and the terrorists under fire control and Israel wants Mr Habib to get its message across to the Syrians, as well as the Lebanease. Israel remains opposed to talking to the PLO terrorists. Reliable sources tell me that the prime minister also told the U.S. envoy he was surprised by the decision to further delay dispatch of F-16 planes to Israel. The prime minister reiterated that Israel considered its actions against the terrorists in Lebanon to be legitimate defensive ones. Mr Begin also made clear his displeasure at the attitude of American officials in Washington about Israel's operations in Lebanon. The prime minister was particularly annoyed by a report that President Reagan had said his actions were making things difficult for those who want to help Israel.

Second Meeting 19 Jul

NC191817 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] The prime minister's meeting with Philip Habib ended a short while ago. Correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports from outside the prime minister's residence:

[Begin recording] The U.S. envoy--whose silence on emerging from meetings with the prime minister we have become accustomed to--this time agreed to make a statement:

[Habib in English] I think you are all aware of the fact that President Reagan had directed me to come to speak and pursue the prospects of a cease-fire in the situation between Israel and Lebanon. I had very serious conversations with the prime minister. It is a complex problem. We discussed it. The prime minister has pointed out that it is a subject which he would naturally discuss in the Cabinet. He informed me that there will be an extraordinary session of the Cabinet and he and I will then continue our discussions. That is all I have.

[Schiffer translates the above and continues] The second meeting between the prime minister and Philip Habib continued for 1 and 1/2 hours. Taking part in the meeting on the Israeli side were also Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, chief of the intelligence branch Maj Gen Yehoshua' Sagi and the prime minister's military secretary, Brig Gen Efrayim Puran.

It seems that during the meeting the envoy of the U.S. President raised several demands, which the prime minister will bring to the Cabinet session the day after tomorrow. We stress that this is just an assessment which has not been confirmed yet.

The facts which are known so far: The United States is demanding that Israel cease fire in the north. Philip Habib stressed in his talks that this demand was also made to the Lebanese Government, which has a duty to work for a cease-fire by the terrorists.

The prime minister explained to the U.S. envoy that Israel will continue to deal blows to the terrorists, who have established a regular army. The aim of this army is to destroy Israel. The responsibility, in Begin's opinion, for stopping the terrorist activity lies with the Lebanese Government.

What is Syria's position in the present crisis? How long will the Soviets continue their indirect support of the terrorist organizations? There is still no clear answer to these questions.

Philip Habib refused to answer a question whether he will stay in Israel until his meeting with the prime minister. This meeting will take place the day after tomorrow. Political circles estimated today that Philip Habib will leave for Beirut this week to try to reduce the tension. These circles were pessimistic today regarding the prospects of the U.S. envoy bringing about a cease-fire. We have a very difficult problem with the United States, an extremely authoritative political figure, who has full and direct contact with the discussions with the U.S. envoy, told me a few minutes ago. A solution by peaceful means could not be seen on the horizon this evening. There have been crises on the northern border in the past, however, which looked as if they would lead to war but when the crises reached their climax a solution was found. [end recording]

Begin 'Firm' After Meetings

TA192216 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2200 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] The prime minister is still firm, even after the two conversations he held with U.S. envoy Philip Habib, that Israel will not cease its attacks on the terrorists until an end is put to their bloody acts and the air force will continue to raid terrorist camps and headquarters even if the camps are intentionally situated near civilian concentrations or amid them. This was reported this evening to our political correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer, by sources associated with Menahem Begin.

In his talks with Philip Habib, the prime minister rejected the criticism leveled at Israel for hitting the civilian population. Mr Begin emphasized the continuous attacks on the peaceful civilian population in Israel by the terrorists, attacks that have continued for a long period of time.

This evening the prime minister conferred with the special U.S. envoy and our correspondent has learned that Philip Habib has presented Israel with several demands aimed at obtaining a cease-fire in the north. The United States will most likely present similar demands to Lebanon as well.

A senior source in Jerusalem told our correspondent this evening, after the meeting [Begin held] with Philip Habib, that Israel is faced with a serious problem regarding the United States. Political circles have expressed pessimistic evaluations regarding the possibility of untying the knot in Lebanon.

Begin to Send Reagan Letter

TA200537 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 20 Jul 81

[Text] The prime minister is apparently going to send a letter to the U.S. President with explanations of the air force bombings in Beirut. Our political correspondent reports that it appears that the letter will be sent at the end of Philip Habib's talks in Jerusalem and after the Cabinet session tomorrow. At that session the Cabinet will decide under what conditions it will be prepared to stop the firing in the north. Sources close to the prime minister say that Menahem Begin believes agreement should only be given to a cease-fire if the terrorists completely stop the murderous actions from the Lebanese border. Philip Habib has already reported to Washington about this position.

BEGIN SAID TO BE 'ANGRY' WITH PRESIDENT REAGAN

TA191120 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1106 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] The prime minister is angry at the President of the United States who, according to reports, made strong statements on the subject of the air raids and made personal remarks regarding Menahem Begin. Correspondent Arye Golan says that at a coalition negotiating meeting with National Religious Party representatives, Begin said: If President Reagan had a problem similar to what we have at the northern border, if he had such a problem on the U.S.-Mexican border, would he behave differently? Why is Reagan angry? asks Begin. Is it because I am trying to prevent the killing of Jews?

SHAMIR INTERVIEW ON BEIRUT BOMBING, U.S. PLANES

TA171846 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Interview of Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Alan Ben-'Ami--recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Mr Shamir, Lebanon has called for a meeting of the Security Council to discuss the events of this week. What will Israel have to say to the international community, in particular about the bombing on Beirut?

[Answer] Well, we will say that all we did is to protect ourselves against the murderous actions of the terrorist organizations against the civilian population of the north of Israel.

[Question] But the air attack against Beirut? Bombs were dropped right in the center of civilian population.

[Answer] We have attacked in Beirut the headquarters of the terrorist organizations. It's true that these headquarters are situated in the middle of populated areas. Until now we have refrained from attacking terrorist bases and headquarters which were situated near concentrations of civilian population. But now, after these attacks by mortar and Katyushas against our civilian population, we decided to attack the headquarters of the terrorist organizations, in spite of the fact that they are located near concentrations of civilian population.

[Question] According to reports from Lebanon, American-supplied planes were used by Israel in these attacks. Do you anticipate any problems or difficulties with the United States over this?

[Answer] I don't see any problems because it was not the first time. We are using our military equipment in our fight against terrorist bases. And all the world knows that we are doing this because we are compelled to protect and to defend the security of Israel.

[Question] U.S. envoy Philip Habib is still in the region, trying to settle the issue of Syrian missiles in Lebanon. The Lebanese have asked him to come to Beirut to discuss this issue and to discuss the events of the week. Do you think this is going to have any effect on Mr Habib's mission?

[Answer] I don't see any link between our confrontation with the terrorist organizations and the mission of Philip Habib. The mission of Philip Habib is to find a peaceful solution to the missile crisis, to the conflict about the missiles between us and Syria. I think this mission is going on and Philip Habib will continue--I hope so, will continue--his mission until he finds a solution acceptable to all the parties.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI SENDS MESSAGE TO ARAB LEADERS

LD141838 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 1715 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Jul (JANA)--The brother leader has sent the following message to the Arab kings and presidents:

It is a bad occasion which calls for me to address you once again in connection with the same issue, as it is not appropriate on the part of the Americans and the Israelis to go even further in their humilitation and contempt of your majesties, your excellencies and your highnesses by directly destroying the Arab existence with U.S. weapons--as is happening today in Lebanon where wholesale massacres of Lebanese Arabs and Palestinians are carried out at the hands of Israel, the spoiled foster child of America, at the expense of the Arabs: It is no longer appropriate on the part of the Americans and the Israelis to be inconsiderate to your majesties, your excellencies and your highnesses, despite your unbounded friendship with America and despite the millions of barrels of oil which the generous Arabs have been presenting to Israel via America and as their contribution toward the great Israeli war effort. The Americans and the Israelis should have taken into consideration the value of the friendship and the density of the oil which forms a link between them and your majesties, your excellencies and your highnesses.

I hope you will reexamine your alliance with the enemy of the Arab nation and the cheap and deep-flowing supplies of oil which only meets the requirements of the enemy, because when all the scientific calculations are completed you do not need them.

Forgive me if my message resembles an irresponsible article. This is because I do not carry the responsibility of a majesty, nor an excellency or a highness, and because I am not responsible to the United States, as I am not an employee of the United States nor do I have the rank of a king, president or prince in the Arab region. Secondly, this is because of a lack of responsibility in the Arab homeland; every day that passes by affirms that there is no person responsible for the Arab dignity or principles except the Palestinian fedayeen. I would like to stress this: the fedayeen alone.

I would like to give you the glad tidings that the Arab revolutionaries will be compelled in the end to make a serious decision. If the Arab world is destined to sink and go under then it should do so by virtue of our own decision and not by a decision by our enemies. God be my witness that I have given warning.

[Signed] Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi

LEBANESE NATIONAL MOVEMENT LEADERS DEPART 18 JUL

LD181012 Tripoli JANA in English 0815 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] Tripoli, 18 July (JANA)--Walid Jumblatt, head of the Political Council of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and chairman of the Socialist Progressive Lebanese Party, and Muhsin Ibrahim, executive secretary general of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, left Tripoli yesterday on their way to Algiers as part of the mission assigned to them by the leader with the aim of mobilizing Arab efforts against Israel.

PFLP-GC LEADERS ARRIVE, RECEIVED BY JABIR

LD181100 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Jul (JANA)--Brother Ahmad Jibril, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, [PFLP-GC] and Brother Fahd Shurur, member of the front's Political Bureau, arrived in Tripoli yesterday evening on a visit to Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

The commander general of the armed forces, Brig Gen Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir today received Brother Ahmad Jibril, general secretary of the PFLP-GC, and brother Fahd Shurur, member of the Political Bureau of the PFLP-GC.

MAURITANIA

FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTRY CONDEMNS ISRAELI ACTIONS

AB171350 Paris AFP in French 1041 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] Nouakchott, 17 Jul (AFP)--In a statement published by the Mauritanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Nouakchott on Friday, the Mauritanian Government strongly condemns Israel's thoughtless and irresponsible acts in southern Lebanon.

The communique adds: It is obvious that true to its usual policy of blackmail, intimidation and aggression, which has so far gone unpunished, the Zionist entity hoped, on one hand, to undermine the achievements of all the efforts made--and particularly those of the quadripartite Arab committee--toward establishing national harmony and unity in southern Lebanon, and, on the other hand, after its heinous crime involving the Tammuz nuclear plant, to prove to the Arab nation and international public opinion that it was still determined to use brute force to accomplish its aims of supremacy and domination.

The government, which feels that the threat of war in that area is greater than ever, calls on international public opinion and the United Nations to assume their responsibilities in order to rapidly put an end to the escalation of violence and hate which Israel is inflicting upon the entire Middle East and for which it alone shall assume full responsibility.

SUDAN

FOREIGN MINISTRY CONDEMNS ISRAEL'S ATTACKS

JN191452 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] Khartoum 19 Jul (SUNA)--Sudan has condemned and strongly denounced the repeated Israeli attacks on southern Lebanon. The Foreign Ministry has issued a statement to this end, calling on the world conscience to stop these attacks. The statement also urged the Arab countries to unify their ranks and assume their responsibility toward their Arab nation and its cause. Following is the text of the statement:

Israel's ceaseless and repeated air raids and attacks on the southern Lebanese towns and villages directed against peaceful citizens--women, children and old people--are part of a blatant war of annihilation against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

The recent treacherous aggression afflicted on the southern Lebanese towns is unequivocal evidence of the Israeli enemy's arrogance and conceit as well as its disregard for international laws and norms and the UN resolutions and Charter.

Israel's repeated and ugly attacks on southern Lebanon make it incumbent on us to call on the world conscience to stop these attacks and to call on the Arab countries to unify their ranks and assume their historical responsibility toward their Arab nation and the pan-Arab issue.

In denouncing and strongly condemning this bestial attack on southern Lebanon, Sudan is fully convinced that only the Arabs' unity and their stand hand-in-hand are capable of deterring Israel and of confronting the arrogant Zionist attacks.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

DACKO BANS TWO PARTIES, SUSPENDS THIRD 18 JUL

AB190730 Paris AFP in English 0718 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] Bangui, 19 Jul (AFP)--Citing risks of civil war arising from violence and general insecurity in the Central African Republic, President David Dacko Saturday night banned two political parties and suspended a third, and ordered the arrest of their leaders and senior members. He announced the clamp-down 5 days after a bomb blast in a crowded cinema here killed 3 people and wounded about 60 others, in an attack claimed by one of the banned parties, the Central African National Liberation Movement (MCLN) headed by Idi Lalla.

The other party Mr Dacko ordered dissolved is the Ubangi Patriotic Front--Labor Party (FPO-PT), headed by Professor Abel Goumba, whom Mr Dacko accused in a broadcast last night of forecasting the cinema attack five days earlier before flying out of the country.

The third party affected was the Movement for the Liberation of the Central African People (MLCP) headed by Ange Patasse, onetime prime minister under ousted Emperor Bokassa. The party has been told to suspend its activities.

President Dacko said security services investigations had found the first two parties were responsible for demonstrations and disturbances in the country since Bokassa's ouster by Mr Dacko in September 1979 in a French-backed coup, and for Tuesday's cinema bombing. Mr Patasse's party had sympathised with them, Mr Dacko said.

President Dacko said that the day of the cinema bombing, two close aides of Mr Lalla had arrived from Brazzaville, capital of Congo. One had returned the following day with the complicity of the commissioner of police at Bangui Airport, the president said. There was a strong presumption that the Lalla and Goumba parties were behind the explosion at Le Club Cinema, he said.

The president referred to riots in October 1979, and the flight and subsequent arrest of Mr Patasse. He said that at that time, the FPO-PT with support from the Lalla faction was already at work in Brazzaville planning terrorism and urban guerrilla action in the CAR. Proof had been found in documents discovered with the arrest last year of the leader of a small commando group coming from the Congolese capital, Mr Dacko went on. Plans were set out for machinegun and bomb attacks by six-man hit squads trained in Angola, Libya and Cuba, and scheduled to be sent into the CAR from a town near Brazzaville, the president said.

NATIONALIST GROUP CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR ATTACK

NC171915 Paris AFP in English 1907 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Excerpt] Paris, 17 Jul (AFP)--A Central African nationalist group has claimed responsibility for the bombing Tuesday in Bangui, Central African Republic, that killed three people in a movie house full of French soldiers and civilians. It was the first such attack since President David Dacko came to power in 1979.

The Central African National Liberation Movement, in a statement dated yesterday in Lagos, Nigeria, and given to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE by a spokesman here today, said "the action of July 14, 1981 (the French national day), is only the first blow". It promised further attacks "until the last French soldier has left Central Africa".

About 1,300 French troops and dozens of French civilian advisers are posted in the Central African Republic, where Mr Dacko was installed by French paratroops in a coup that overthrew Emperor Bokassa in September 1979.

The Central African National Liberation Movement, led by Iddi Lala, is thought in some quarters to be pro-Libyan. It was the only major political grouping that did not participate in the presidential elections in March, won by Mr Dacko. Mr Lala's candidacy was rejected, officially because he was not living in the country.

Mr. Lala, 33, formed his movement in Lagos last December, saying it would strive to "build an independent and prosperous Central African Republic". A former spokesman for the Ubangi Patriotic Front, another opposition group, Mr Lala lives in Lagos and Brazzaville, Congo.

In January, he urged the Central African People to avoid "any collaboration with the French occupation forces in their undisguised recolonization of our country", a French possession until 1960.

Opposition Condemnation

AB181242 Paris AFP in French 1039 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] Bangui, 18 Jul (AFP)--the CAR opposition cannot indulge in blind terrorism that would only weaken it, the officials of the three parties announced.

In a communique handed to AFP in Bangui on Saturday, Henri Maidou of the Republican Progress Party, Ange Patasse of the Central African People's Liberation Movement and a representative of Francois Pehoua's independent reflection and political action grouping held a meeting within the framework of the Provisional Political Council (CPP) and condemned the bomb attack at the Bangui movie theater Le Club, which claimed 3 killed and 27 injured in Bangui last Tuesday.

Responsibility for the action was claimed by a spokesman for Dr Iddi Lalla's Central African National Liberation Movement (MCLN).

In the absence of Abel Goumba of the Ubangi Patriotic Front-Labor Party, and Mr Francois Pehoua, who is currently out of the country, the members of the CPP back the government's decision to clarify the matter, discover those responsible for the blast and give them an exemplary punishment.

It is obvious that the MCLN, which is based abroad, was aided by accomplices inside the country. In Bangui, the police have been ordered to undertake careful investigation and henceforth, there are police checks thoughout the city at nightfall. Meanwhile, everyone voluntarily submits his car to police control and has his identity card checked.

The CAR police continue their investigation without releasing any information on their initial findings.

FORMER BOKASSA PRIME MINISTER DOMITIEN ACQUITTED

AB171748 Paris AFP in French 1524 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] Bangui, 17 Jul (AFP)--After sitting for two days, the CAR criminal court holding public trial of former Emperor Bokassa's accomplices in Bangui on Friday acquitted former prime minister and imperial adviser Mrs Elisabeth Domitien. She was given the benefit of the doubt.

In spite of statements from witnesses, the court, which began deliberating on Thursday, was unable to prove guilt against the former deputy chairman of the Movement for the Social Development of Black Africa--the only party at the time. Mrs Domitien, who had been in detention since the fall of Bokassa on charges of embezzlement and breach of trust, has consequently been freed.

GHANA

PARLIAMENTARIANS CONDEMN KILLINGS IN NIGERIA

AB180633 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] Members of Parliament yesterday strongly condemned the killing of Ghanaians in neighboring states, especially in Nigeria. This followed a statement by the Action Congress Party parliamentary leader, Dr Tackie-otoo, on the murder of five Ghanaians in Ibadan, Nigeria. He noted that this is the third time that such a murderous act had been perpetrated against Ghanaians there for no apparent reason. Dr Tackie-otoo said the time has come for Ghana to demonstrate to Nigeria that she cannot tolerate the inhuman treatments being meted out to Ghanaians in Nigeria.

To stop any further inhuman act, Dr Tackie-otto called on the government to suspend diplomatic relations with Nigeria. This would make that country realize that Ghana has not taken lightly the coldblooded murder of her nationals. Several members stressed the need for Ghana to register her protest in no uncertain terms to Nigeria about the murder. They said Ghana must be forthright in condemning such atrocities despite the economic difficulties facing Ghanaians who are also human beings.

The Popular Front Party parliamentary leader, Mr Odoi-Sykes, described what is happening to Ghanaians in West Africa as a shame to the whole of Africa. He questioned the moral rights of African nations to condemn the maltreatment of Africans in apartheid "South Africa when thay are giving the same if not worse treatment to their fellow Africans.

LIBERIA

TEXT OF DOE ECONOMIC ADDRESS TO NATION 17 JUL

AB171940 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1722 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Speech delivered by M Sgt Samuel Kanyon Doe on 17 July 1981 at Unity Conference Center near Monrovia--recorded]

[Text] Once more on behalf of the Government of Liberia and members of the council, I stand before you today to enlighten you on matters of formal concern to the survival of our people and sustenance of our economic, social and educational institutions.

You will realize that since we came to power it has been our policy to acquaint you from time to time with major issues of national importance, whatever the magnitude or implications may be. We have adopted this policy because we believe that our problems, our people must always be aware of and participate in decisions affecting our present and future living conditions. Therefore, it is in this spirit, fellow citizens, that we have come to acquaint you with the state of our economy, taking into consideration the just-ended first-fold fiscal year, 1980 and 1981 to announce our new budget and the launching of our first 4-year development plan.

As we proceed on, the fact must not be hidden that our economic and financial condition remains grave. Consequently, we must continue to face the challenges before us to justify our existence as a free nation and people. As your leaders, we the members of the People's Redemption Council [PRC] have had to make some difficult choices among unpleasant and difficult alternatives. We would rather do so than risk the political freedom which we won for our people a little over a year ago. On this occasion, with all your indulgence, as we tell you what the problems are, we propose a solution and how we hope that our action will improve Liberia's long-term economic and financial prospects. On many occasions we have outlined the many problems we inherited from the previous government.

Major among them were the very bad liquidated position, the huge foreign debt it accumulated that we now, as a responsible government, have agreed to repay. We have proven that unproductive spending was encouraged and that very large budgetary deficits always existed, financed by foreign commercial banks and borrowing on commercial terms.

Fellow citizens, at this stage of our revolution, we must realize that while 17 illustrious members of the Armed Forces of Liberia risked their lives to bring about political freedom for the masses, economic freedom can only be obtained upon the concerted efforts of you the citizens and all those residing in our borders. Thus, we also recovered from unfavorable economic situations in which we found ourselves out of our most true collective effort with dedication and commitment to find workable, lasting solutions to our problems.

You will recall that in spite of recurring economic and financial conditions, we have not neglected to continue improving the lot of our so unfortunate masses. Thus we recall that one of the first acts of the PRC government was to allow increases in the salaries for the lower paid government employees as well as men and women in arms. We did so because we felt that such people had been neglected for many, many years, and also as a means of reducing inequality in income distribution.

In the greater Monrovia area we have reduced rents by 23 percent and 15 percent in other parts of the country as a means of helping our poor people. [applause] Because we believe that education is the lifeblood of any progressive society, we have embarked upon a free and quality education program for young people. We also take pride in the fact that our government has embarked upon an ambitious program to improve housing conditions for army and police personnel. You will also realize, fellow citizens, that external circumstances have also made changes much more difficult for us. The most important of this is the ever-increasing price of crude oil and other needed commodities on the world market. Paying for these commodities has laid a burden on the Liberian economy and all our taxpayers. As oil is so important to our industry, transportation and our general livelihood, paying for this--it ranks number one among our foreign bills. Our import prices on the world market also have been rising rapidly and international interest rates have now reached an unprecedented level of more than 20 percent. [passage indistinct]

I am pleased to report that as of today's date, the total payment from the private sector for that scheme is $10 million. Deductions in respect of government employed totaled $11 million resulting in the sum of $21 million. I must assure all contributors that in keeping with the provisions of the decree launching the scheme, payments of interest and principals will be made as provided by law. While the compulsory features of the scheme have now ended, we must accept that the scheme will continue on volunteer basis.

Fellow citizens, in the midst of [words indistinct], financial difficulties, we take this opportunity to announce to you our budget for the fiscal year 1981-1982 totaling some $431.1 million. [applause] We consider this as a survival budget. [passage indistinct] In view of the world economic problems, we well as other internal factors that affected all [words indistinct] performances, we have estimated internal revenues at $220 million. However, because of the need to decrease this level, the following revenue measures are being taken which will give [words indistinct] additional $48 million or 22 percent of internal revenue this fiscal year:

1. The excise tax on beer is hereby raised from the present level of 59 cents to one dollar on the liter.

2. As I indicated earlier, the price of oil continues to increase on the world market and it is extremely difficult for all to pay for the importation of this commodity. Therefore, as a conservation measure, the PRC hereby increases the excise tax on the gallon of gas by 20 cents. [passage indistinct]

We are aware of the fact that a number of friendly countries, notably the United States, West Germany, France and Italy, as well as so many international organizations such as the IMF, the EEC and the World Bank, have continued to give us [words indistinct] $132.9 million. This, therefore, [applause] [passage indistinct].

We have many other measures that require your usual understanding and support. We want you to know it is not the pleasure for us as your leaders to take these measures, but if we do not act in this way now, our economy will be severely jeopardized. It offers a means of supporting [words indistinct] national reconstruction pact. [passage indistinct] On a progressive basis instead of a fixed basis, there shall be a [words indistinct] per month.

A. Those earning up to $200 a month would be required to pay 2 percent.

B. Those (?within) the $201 to $400 bracket--5 percent, and those falling in the $401 to $1000 income bracket will be subjected to 8 percent tax deduction and those in the $1000 bracket and above, 10 percent deductions. Contrary to the provisions of the [words indistinct] the minister of finance is authorized to deduct taxes from my salary as specified in category B [words indistinct] my usual income tax. [applause]

It is important to note that in the budget for fiscal year 1981-82, recurrent expenditure has been estimated at $242.7 million. [Words indistinct] is estimated at $51.5 million. It should, however, be pointed out that the actual levels of debt repayment amount to $79 million, but due to the arrangement through the Paris Club negotiations, in time this claim has been reduced to (?$21.5) million.

The increases in allover government expenditure is a result of the measures (?we) are undertaking to bring relief to two important groups--teachers and nurses--by giving them an increase in salary in spite of our financial difficulties. We [words indistinct] to put such measures into effect now.

Given the content of our financial difficulties, we now seek to set in motion, through this budget, the process for [words indistinct] increase in output, particularly in the areas of rural development and employment. Several other methods would be undertaken to improve the general financial situation in the country. They provide [words indistinct] by the Liberian Produce Marketing Corporation to be brought into alignment with the world market price. [applause]

2. [as heard] The National Bank of Liberia is thereby authorized to issue certificates of deposits of 3 and 6 months maturity in multiples of $500 (at an initial) interest comparable to those obtainable in major money markets abroad.

3. [Passage indistinct] [applause]

4. Guarantee by government and National Bank of Liberia to public corporations for borrowing from local commercial banks shall be provided [words indistinct] in respect of essential goods and services after a full appraisal has been made of the fincial conditions of the public corporation seeking the loan.

5. We intend to take every step to improve the financial facilities of all public corporations. The salary scales of all public corporations, [words indistinct] and taxes shall be reviewed.

6. They would evolve initially [words indistinct] of these enterprises by reducing as can, the [word indistinct] and debt outstanding as well as implementing price increases where appropriate.

My fellow citizens, you noted last November in our statement on the economic and financial situation in Liberia that the situation of rice has been of major concern to us. It is still not pleasant all the same. Because of our desire to keep the cost of this commodity not higher than $20 a bag, the government has had to spend more than $6 million a year to retain that price, the lowest in West Africa.

The world market price production shows that this subsidy by the government claims annually on the resources of the Liberia Produce Marketing Corporation a total of $9 million in the fiscal year 1981-1982. The quantities of rice we estimated to be produced in the last fiscal year have almost doubled because of the smuggling and what appears to be a drastic decline in local production. This means the government is subsidizing the rice from other countries. It also means that because the cost for producing rice domestically is more than $20 a bag, it is [word indistinct] incentives to the Liberian farmer to plant this essential commodity. Therefore, in spite (?of) the [words indistinct] the general desire of our government to keep the price of rice as low as possible, [words indistinct] and our limited resources [words indistinct]. Accordingly, it has become very necessary that the price of rice be increased so that the millions of dollars spent yearly by government to subsidize this commodity will be used for the promotion of agriculture, health, free education and other vital programs. It is, therefore, members of the council, the decision of the council that the initial price of the 100-pound quantity bag of rice be sold at no more than $24 on the Liberian market. [applause]

In view of this policy, the Ministry of Commerce should immediately prepare a price list for various grades of locally produced and imported rice for the PRC's approval. We consider, in preparing our [words indistinct]. As we expect our people to pay a higher price for rice, so must they accept all to have (?this) commodity in stock at all times. [Words indistinct] for the importation of rice [words indistinct] and foreigner businesses to all [words indistinct] smuggling of this commodity. The Ministry of Justice will be in the right to issue a decree to deal with anyone caught in the act. With the aim of reducing our [word indistinct] spending on rice we are appealing to all Liberians to make use of other locally produced foods, such as cassavas, yams and plantains.

My fellow citizens, in spite of the difficult financial problems the PRC government continues to face, our objective to build a new society will be meaningless if we do not begin the modern year economic and social development program which will provide a useful direction for national economy. In this connection, I am pleased to inform you the highlights and prospects of our [words indistinct] covering the fiscal year 1981-1982 through 1984-1985. It is our opinion that this action will be justifiable to our national existence as well as hope for our people now and in the years ahead.

For this plan period, it is expected that the total amount of (?$550) million will be invested in the public sector. This the government [words indistinct] limited because it is such a priority sector, such as agricultural, forestry and rural development roads, electricity, industrial and commerce, educational training and health and social welfare. This level of public sector investment over the next 4 years indicates that more than $30 million will be invested each year. This will be an emphasis being given to agriculture which plays (?an) essential role in our economy since approximately 2/3 of our population depends on this field and its related activities for its livelihood. Further, it is this sector upon which we must (?firmly) rely for extending the productivity of our economy. Perhaps as our rural income is raised through farming, we will be able to perform more, and with better tools, clinics and roads, we can expect to increase the amount being reinvested to make this sector still more productive. Our plan will allocate $203 million to agriculture and forestry, which represent the highest share in the total plan outlaid.

According to the plan, decentralization in the administration of agriculture and rural development program will be followed. This program will be implemented with maximum local participation and will focus on village levels self-help activities. Attention will be placed on various agricultural proposed needs such as extension, training and output provision, resources, credit and market. This involves developing the capability of offering institutions to carry out this proposed project. If we are to benefit from the development program, we have no other chance than becoming self-sufficient. The 4-year plan will devote serious attention to improving the well-being of the masses of the rural residents and the development of both food crops and other agricultural products such as coffee, cocoa, oil palm and rubber commodities in which Liberia has comparative advantages.

During the planned years, emphasis will be also placed on the formation of producer cooperatives in each county and territory. Government officials and tax technicians will work closely with me to encourage cooperatives to produce at least 3,000 acres of farm rice in each county and at least 1,500 acres of farm rice in each territory. Fellow citizens, if we work harder, if we believe we can, we will be able to generate at least 30,000 new jobs and increase rice production to the point of self-suffiency during this planned period.

It is [word indistinct] that $45 million income will be derived from the sale of the rice and our members of the cooperatives will get at least $40 million as personal income. This is the [words indistinct].

In our development efforts, we must not neglect (?the sector) of Liberian foreign [exchange] resources. Timber production has increased tremendously over the past few years, and the prospects for the continued expansion are good. Thus, with a view to [word indistinct] the exploitation of the forest so that [word indistinct] and resources does not become depleted but rather generated to provide a supply of timber for many generations. At the same time, we will ensure equitable returns to the government from profits [words indistinct] exploitation in activities to promote the development of local processing and woodworking industry.

Fellow citizens, I shall now remind you that road links are one way to close the social and economic gap between people. We therefore realize that the entire country must be connected by a well-constructed and efficiently coordinated network of roads. Thus, the government has allocated $109 million for this area of activity in the new plan. [Words indistinct] to consolidate our [words indistinct] need to be used in the next 4 years to operate, rehabilitate existing roads and construct new ones. In order to minimize the high cost of energy in our country, the PRC government, during this plan period, will undertake detailed statistical studies in cooperation with the World Bank and other long-term lending financial bodies on the possibility of developing hydro-based power as well as exploring for oil deposits in (Abure) territory. While these studies are being prepared, the plan provides for increasing our [word indistinct] generating facilities from other parts of the country.

The [word indistinct] experiment project currently under way in Lofa County will be (experimented) with a view to starting other similar schemes in other parts of our rural Liberia. The plan provides for the investment of about $41 million [words indistinct] for energy development. We hope that from the national and international commercial institutions, we will have greater support in this area in the near future.

I need not remind you, fellow citizens, that a nation's economic development capabilities are determined mainly by its industrial development policy and program. [Words indistinct] the government will, therefore, undertake to provide resources needed for industrial [words indistinct] manufacturing. In this connection, we must (?make) the industrial fight for [words indistinct] develop along the [word indistinct] of the free zone authority.

In addition, the PRC government will concentrate on the developing of small-scale industries which will encourage Liberian businessmen through [word indistinct] and credit capabilities. A special small- and medium-scale businesses program will be launched during the first 2 years of this plan. This effort will be encouraged and monitored by government through the National Investment Commission. A total of $301.3 million will be invested by government to create the appropriate climate for increase of such efforts in industry and commerce with emphasis on manufacturing and processing. [passage indistinct]

In the field of health $31.5 million is to be spent to improve conditions whereby the majority of the population, (?the citizens) living in the rural areas, will live socially, economically productive lives. Special attention is to be given to the maternal and child care services [words indistinct].

Against this background, it must be noted that in the 1981-1982 development budget $48.6 million has been allocated for agriculture and forestry. The Government of Liberia will contribute $14.3 million while a foreign firm alone will account for $34.3 million. An amount $4.6 million is allocated for industry which includes government contribution of $1.8 million while foreign contribution amounts to $2.8 million. Human resources development, which includes secondary and elementary education, technical and vocational training, health and education manpower development and health and welfare will receive a total allocation of $17.2 million. Government will contribute $7.7 million while foreign contributions will account for $10.5 million [figures as heard]. According to the plan, infrastructure, which includes housing, rural power water communication system, regional and urban development, will get a total allocation of $64.6 million. Government contributions will amount to $25.9 million while foreign contributions will stand at $28.9 million [figures as heard].

It is our hope, ladies and gentlemen, that this, our first development plan, will [word indistinct] to all people through employment and other benefits. [Passage indistinct]

NIGERIA

NIGERIA WOULD REACT TO U.S. MOVES IN ANGOLA

AB172029 Paris AFP in French 1853 GMT 17 Jul 81

[Text] Lagos, 17 July (AFP)--Alhaji Ali Baba, the Nigerian minister of state in the Ministry of External Affairs, told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) in Lagos on Friday that his country would react if the United States interfered in the internal affairs of Angola as such an action would be aimed at counteracting the efforts of the black majority governments in southern Africa.

In an interview with NAN, the minister of state added that the nuclear development of Nigeria had peaceful objectives. Therefore, there was no need for an arms race on the African Continent.

The agency asked the minister of state, in particular, how Nigeria would react if the U.S. President, Mr Ronald Reagan, were to support the rebellious activities of Dr Jones Savimbi, leader of the South African-backed UNITA movement.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO ANNOUNCES MAJOR ATTACK ON RUACANA BASE

LD181821 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 1430 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] Luanda, [date indistinct] (ANGOP)--SWAPO has announced, in a communique released in Luanda, that on 16 July it carried out a major attack on the Ruacana military complex. According to the communique [words indistinct] with large artillery pieces resulting in the devastation of the [word indistinct] racist installations and killing or wounding over 100 South African troops.

The Ruacana complex consists of an air base, infantry camps and important communications installations. It is used by the racist troops as a springboard for attacks against the People's Republic of Angola.

The Namibian liberation movement says in its communique that this successful attack gives the lie to the racists' claims that they had destroyed SWAPO's fighting spirit. The communique concludes by stating that the Namibian People's Liberation Army, PLAN, will continue its actions against the occupiers until Namibia becomes truly free and independent.

DIRK MUDGE COMMENTS ON RESULTS OF U.S. VISIT

LD191142 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 19 Jul 81

[Text] The chairman of the Ministers' Council of South-West Africa / Namibia, Dr Dirk Mudge, says there is large-scale ignorance in the United States of the territory's internal policies. Mr Mudge has just returned to Windhoek from a weeklong visit to the United States. He told an airport news conference that despite the ignorance, the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance had become an important factor in the United States and there was better understanding of the views that he had put forward. Mr Mudge said he believed he succeeded in informing government officials about the true state of affairs in South-West Africa/Namibia before the conference of Western powers which begins in Ottawa, Canada, tomorrow. Britain, France, West Germany and Canada [words insistinct] visit South-West Africa/Namibia after the Ottawa conference.

The chairman of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, Mr Peter Kalangula, who accompanied Mr Mudge to the United States, is expected back in Windhoek early this week.

SOUTH AFRICA

BROTHER OF MOZAMBIQUE PILOT REPORTEDLY DEFECTS

LD181202 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 18 Jul 81

[Text] The intelligence chief of the South African Air Force, Brig (Lis Vander Lit), has announced that the brother of Lt Andriano Bomba, who defected to South Africa recently, has also crossed the border from Mozambique. Addressing a news conference at Hoedspruit, where Lieutenant Bomba landed his Russian-built aircraft, Brig (Vander Lit) said that Lieutenant Bomba's elder brother, Mr (Bur Bendura) Bomba, made his way to South Africa via Swaziland. (?His applications) for permanent residence in South Africa are being studied by the South African authorities.